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CONTENTS: Vol. XLVII. No. 7.

	PAGE		PAGE
Bankruptcy Reports	289	Irish News	277
British Pharmaceutical Conference (photo taken at Bournemouth)	284	Legal Reports	286
Correspondence	300	Marriages	295
Deaths	295	New Books	283
Deeds of Arrangement	295	New Companies and Company News	299
Drug Culture in British Central Africa	283	New Remedies	296
Editorial Comments:—		Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland:—	
Amendment of Company Law	290	Council Meeting	280
The B.P.	291	Quatrains	285
The Staff of Life	292	Recent Patents	296
Notes	293	Scotch News	278
Eleven Maws (illustrated)	283	The Press on the Prescribing Chemist	279
English News	276	Trade-marks Applied for	281
Foreign and Colonial News	294	Trade Notes and Novelty	288
French News	278	Trade Reports	291
Gazette	289		

POSTCARD COMPETITION.

PHARMACEUTICAL ANAGRAMS.

FOR one of our recent competitions, a correspondent submitted the following "anagram":—

Inf. rad. gentian. co.—
 A fine, grand tonic.

We are open to receive other attempts of the same kind. They may be anagrams of names of drugs or pharmaceutical preparations, or of names of firms or persons known in pharmacy. This competition will close on August 31 next. Anagrams must be sent on postcards. Subscribers, their families, and employés are eligible to compete. One guinea, and more if the competition is a good one, will be given or distributed for the best anagrams.

EDUCATIONAL NUMBER.

THE Editor will be obliged for any information in regard to arrangements for the coming session now being made by schools of pharmacy, chemistry, dentistry, and medicine throughout the country. The secretaries of local associations are also requested to communicate particulars or prospectuses of local classes specially adapted for pharmaceutical students.

Summary.

QUININE has a tendency to go up just now (p. 299).

ORMSKIRK Magistrates have the idea that retailers can be fined 50% for selling liquid ammonia (p. 293).

It has been decided to adopt the metric system alongside the English one in the British Pharmacopœia (p. 291).

In an editorial article we discuss some of the chemical problems associated with the manufacture of bread (p. 292).

PHARMACOPŒIA criticism appears to have worn itself out. The British Medical Association discussion was poor (p. 291).

We give an abstract of the proposals made by the Board of Trade Committee for the amendment of company law on page 291.

A BILL to regulate the practice of medicine, including pharmacy, in Natal is under consideration of the Legislature there (p. 278).

THE prospects of drug-culture in Nyasaland are the subject of a foreign office report by Mr. Whyte, the botanist at Zomba (p. 283).

THE Paris correspondent of *Truth* says that araroba is a grand thing for the complexion, and is used by eminent persons (p. 294).

FEWER than a hundred pharmacists migrate into the United States every year. More go from the United Kingdom than from any other country (p. 294).

WE reproduce the group-photograph of the British Pharmaceutical Conference held at Bournemouth, with a key of the persons figuring therein (p. 284).

THE new opium-crop is coming in, and we have, from our Constantinople and Smyrna correspondents, full particulars regarding it. Price continues firm, notwithstanding the large crop (p. 298).

A GENOA professor has succeeded in producing an anti-tuberculosis serum, obtained from animals which have been rendered immune by inoculations of tubercle antitoxins free from the bacilli (p. 277).

A WOMAN in the East-end of London, who suffered from indigestion, was treated by a doctor, with the result that she vomited a newt 8 inches long, which had been her close companion for a long time (p. 293).

WE devote seven pages to correspondence; letters on various topics, a number of interesting dispensing-difficulties, legal advice, and replies to queries on problems interesting to the trade generally make up the lot (p. 300).

A GROCER in Gisburn has been fined for selling poor-seidlitz-powders, and one in Greetland for watery tr. rhei. Another analyst has made a mistake, upon which a summons was based—Dr. Angell, the Kent analyst, stating that he found alumina in a flour when there was none (p. 287).

AN unregistered chemist's assistant, giving evidence at an inquest at Limehouse, stated that he had attended the sick and dying and bereaved in ten districts of London during the past six years, and that he lived only to do good to others. The Coroner gave him some useful and temperate advice. (p. 276)

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain declines to recognise the certificate of the Preliminary examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland as equivalent to its own, though the latter Society has already agreed to accept the British Society's First examination certificate in lieu of its own (p. 280).

THE Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland has resolved to ask the Lord-Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland to remove the name of Mr. R. C. Marshall, registered druggist, of Dungannon, from the register, on the ground of his second conviction for compounding after giving a guarantee that he would not offend again (p. 280).



English News

The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

Cutting amongst Cutters.

The Drug and Dispensing Stores (Limited), Wolverhampton, tell us that the paragraph on page 245 refers to their Birmingham branch—the "Up-to-date Stores." Boots (Limited) have not yet got to Wolverhampton.

Men who have Risen.

The *South Wales Daily Post* of August 7 records a "social reunion" given at the Mackworth Arms Hotel, Neath, by "two successful Neath boys," Mr. W. B. Trick and Mr. J. E. Griffiths, directors of the well-known firm of Messrs. Lewis & Burrows (Limited), wholesale and retail chemists, London. The company included the Mayor, an alderman, a councillor, and a number of ordinary citizens, down to a journalist. The report states that "an excellent repast was admirably served by Mr. W. B. Trick's staff." Surely this does not mean the assistants employed by Mr. Trick's company.

The Prescribing Chemist "Lives only to do Good."

At Limehouse, on Monday, Mr. Wynne Baxter held an inquest respecting the death of George William Clark, aged 13 months, the son of a bargeman living in Bromley. The mother stated that the deceased, and also another of her children, had been suffering from measles. Witness sent her sister to a chemist, on Thursday, for some medicine, but he told her he would come and see the child. He did. He looked at the child, and told them to fetch some medicine. They did so. At the same time he gave them a white powder. He called again at 10 o'clock the same night, and sent some more medicine. The following morning the child seemed worse, and witness sent again for the chemist, but he refused to come, and said, "Put my medicine out of sight, and go for Dr. Haddock, and don't mention that I have been here." Witness sent for Dr. Haddock, but the child died before his arrival. Witness and her husband thought the chemist was a qualified man, and first heard of him through his attending a woman next door for rheumatic fever, and other patients in the street. John Charles Perdue, of Salmon's Lane, Limehouse, stated that he was a chemist's and druggist's assistant, and had never passed any examination. He was employed by Mr. Wilmer, a registered chemist and druggist. Mr. Wilmer knew he went out to see patients. Witness added that he had attended the sick and dying and bereaved for six years in ten different districts in London. The Coroner: Then the sooner you give it up the better for everybody. Are you aware that through any want of skill on your part you would stand at the Old Bailey for manslaughter? Witness: I am fully aware of it. The Coroner: Then, in the face of such a statement, I am sure no one would have any mercy on you. Witness denied that he told the mother to hide the medicine; but on being confronted with Mrs. Evans, he hesitated in denying it. The Coroner: Who, then, is telling the lie, you or she? Witness: Not I. The Coroner: Well, I tell you plainly, I believe her, not you. Witness added that he never charged anyone for anything, and got his living by his skill. The Coroner: What is that, pray? Witness: Converting tea-leaves into anything. It would surprise anyone to see what I make out of tea-leaves. The Coroner: But that does not give you the right to pass as a doctor. Witness: I know what I am doing, and live only to do good for others. If I do wrong, I will stand the risk. The Coroner: Then you are a silly young man. Witness: Public opinion I care not for; but before I go I leave this (throwing 5s. on the table) for the husband; he's been out of work for weeks and needs it. The Coroner: Do you make your medicine of tea-leaves? Witness: No, sir. The Coroner (smelling the bottle): Why, this

smells strongly of tea. (Laughter). Dr. Haddock stated that the child died of bronchitis. The medicine given appeared to be very simple and harmless. The Coroner, in summing up, said the jury could do very little in this case, as Dr. Haddock could not say any harm had been done by the medicine. According to the law, everyone might prescribe, but they did so at their own risk. The law did not prevent them from attending and giving medicine. The jury returned a verdict of natural death, and requested the Coroner to write to Mr. Wilmer, calling his attention to the risk his assistant was daily running.

Carbolic-acid Poisonings.

Sarah Ann Standen, a young woman living with her mother at Brighton, committed suicide with carbolic acid on Monday, while suffering from great mental depression.

William Charles Stainsby (32), a telegraph-clerk at Radford, out of employment, died through taking carbolic acid on August 9. The jury found that he committed suicide during temporary insanity, but the evidence was quite compatible with the poison being taken by accident.

An inquest was held on Monday at Leicester on the body of Mary Ann Fletcher (42), who had suffered from hæmorrhage and neuralgia. Mr. Hutton, chemist, said he sold some laudanum and some carbolic acid to deceased. She said she wanted the acid for some ironwork. Mr. Spencer, surgeon, said death was due to carbolic-acid poisoning. The jury returned a verdict of suicide during temporary insanity.

A young woman named Rebecca Mitchell (19), residing at Aberavon, Glamorganshire, who for the last five years had been suffering from chronic heart-disease and dropsy, on Saturday last sent her little sister to a chemist's for 1½ oz. of carbolic acid. She drank nearly the whole of it, and died on Sunday morning. She left a letter, in which she wished her friends good-bye, and expressed regret for the deed she was about to do, but said she was tired of life. At the inquest on Tuesday a verdict of temporary insanity was returned.

Dr. G. Danford Thomas held an inquest at Hampstead on Tuesday on the body of a gentlemanly-looking man who was found dead on Hampstead Heath last Saturday morning. His shirt bore the initials "G. D.," but the body had not yet been identified. Mr. Payne, the police-surgeon, had made a *post mortem* examination, and found that his heart was considerably diseased, and that death resulted from carbolic-acid poisoning. The jury returned a verdict of death from carbolic-acid poisoning, adding that the poison was self-administered, but under what circumstances there was no evidence to show.

Committal of Chemists.

In the Westminster County Court on August 9, the London and Westminster Loan and Discount Company, a firm of money-lenders, sought for the committal, for non-payment of a judgment debt, of Stephen Rogers, a chemist, carrying on business at Camden Town. The debtor did not appear, and his Honour made an order for his committal to Holloway for twelve days, but suspended the operation of the warrant for a month.

In the Lord Mayor's Court on Thursday, before the Assistant Judge, Mr. Alexander David Rae, chemist and druggist, of 7 Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, was summoned by Mr. W. J. Morris to show cause why he should not pay a sum of 13l. 10s. 8d., for which judgment had previously been obtained. The defendant did not appear, but it was stated, as evidence of means, that he was in a good way of business. The learned Judge made an order for the payment of 10s. in twenty-eight days, the defendant, in default of payment, to be committed for twenty days.

Charge of Bribery against a Chemist.

A Wigan chemist and Town Councillor, Mr. Henry Litherland, was summoned on Monday last, at the instance of the Liberal registration agent, on a charge of having given 2s. 6d. to one woman and 5s. to another, with the object of persuading them to induce their husbands to vote for the Conservative candidate at the recent election. After the evidence in support of the charge had been heard, Mr.

McKenna, who appeared for Mr. Litherland, said the case for the prosecution was one of the most abominable charges ever brought into a court of justice. Mr. Litherland, being called, denied that he gave the women money on the election day. The Bench, thinking the evidence insufficient to send it for trial, dismissed the case. Mr. Hope intimated that the prosecution intended to prefer a bill against the defendant before the grand jury at the ensuing assizes.

Theft from a Chemist.

At the Southwark Police Court on Monday, two men, named Pearson & Rickett, were charged with stealing a silver watch, the property of Mr. Daniel Dukes, a chemist, of Lavender Hill. It was proved that the prisoners stole the property from the prosecutor's person and decamped, but upon the information given by him to the police they were arrested in London Road, and the stolen property was found in the possession of the prisoner Rickett, who threw it into the roadway. The Magistrate remanded the prisoners for further inquiries as to their past character.

Chemists at Cricket.

A match was played at Willesden on Saturday, August 10, between the Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.'s C.C. and the "Kepler" (B., W. & Co. C.C. B. B. & Co. batted first, and scored 64 runs, Newport (20), Wilkins (11), and Cheyne (not out 12) being the chief scorers. The "Kepler" men matched this performance, with 33 per cent. margin, their total score being 96, Herbert (39) and Thompson (not out 20) being the chief contributors.

Chemists' Dog dealing.

Robert Richard Fergie, chemist's assistant, 40 Newington Road, Edinburgh, was charged at Shrewsbury on August 8 with causing a bull bitch to be cruelly treated by withholding from it sufficient food and water. Mr. Morton Smith prosecuted on behalf of the S.P.C.A., and Mr. F. W. Williams was for the defendant. The case was heard in the absence of the defendant. Mr. Smith explained that in June last Mr. Ison, chemist, of Shrewsbury, sold a bull bitch to the defendant for 12*l.*, and 9*l.* was paid on account. The bitch was sent to Edinburgh, and some correspondence took place in regard to it, and on July 5 Mr. Fergie put the bitch into the hamper it arrived in and sent it back to Shrewsbury. The dog was then off its food and was suffering from inflammation of the bowels. The dog was not only unfit to travel, but unable to take food. It was properly packed, but there was no food or water in the hamper; in fact, the bitch was sent away from Edinburgh and left to take its chance. The dog arrived in Shrewsbury by the 1.59 train on July 5. Notice was sent to Mr. Ison that the bitch had arrived, but he was away from home, and the dog remained in the hamper at the station all night, and next morning it was dead. Mr. Ison deposed to the sale of the dog to the defendant, and said he did not know that the dog had been sent back. Defendant did not write or wire to him. Cross-examined, Mr. Ison said defendant did say in one of his letters that he would send the bitch back. Mr. Litt, veterinary surgeon, said the bitch died from want of food, and especially of drink. Mr. Williams, in defence, argued that the railway officials and Mr. Ison were responsible, and not defendant. The case was dismissed. Mr. Smith applied for a case, which was refused, and the defendant was allowed 1*l.* 1*s.* for expenses.

Death from Drinking Methylated Spirit.

William Henry Church (53) was a married man who for ten years had lived apart from his wife. Recently he had lived at 27 Norman Road, Fulham, and for some time he had been in bad circumstances. He used to drink methylated spirit when he was unable to get anything else. Last week he was found in an unconscious state, and he died a few days later from coma produced by drinking the spirit.

The Yarrow Home.

A representative of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST accompanied a party of friends and pressmen lately to the opening of the Yarrow Home for Convalescent Children at Broadstairs. It is a spacious and most convenient building with grounds 10½ acres in extent, comprising orchard, kitchen-

garden, and ornamental grounds, sloping towards the cliff. It has been founded and sufficiently endowed by Mr. Yarrow, and is a noble work of most intelligent benevolence. No subscriptions are invited, or will be accepted. The building is adapted for the residence of fifty boys and fifty girls, and it is intended for convalescent children of respectable but struggling parents. Parents whose children are received in this home will be expected to pay a small nominal weekly charge of 5*s.*, as it is assumed that the class of parent specially intended to assist would be just too good to accept charity and just too poor to give their sick child a needed change. The classes specially thought of by the founder comprise:—The poor minister, the superior artisan or foreman, the city clerk, the struggling tradesman, and even the unsuccessful professional man, and all in straitened circumstances. The trustees will consider applications from clergymen, medical men, secretaries of societies to which medical men belong, provident dispensaries, and the principal London institutions for the relief of distress. The London offices are 73a Queen Victoria Street, E.C.



Irish News

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Business Changes in Dublin.

Mr. Joseph Edmondson, L.P.S.I., of 12 Rathmines Terrace, Dublin, has taken into partnership Mr. F. T. Hoey, L.P.S.I., who has been in his employment for over five years. The business is now carried on under the style of Edmondson & Hoey.

Mr. Simpson's pharmacy, Henry Street, which was destroyed by fire some time ago, is rapidly approaching completion. The new concern promises to be one of the finest in the city.

Messrs. Griffin's chemical and drug store in South Great George's Street is being pulled down preparatory to extensive structural improvements. The adjoining house will become part of the new establishment.

Dr. Merrin's Medical Hall in Lower Camden Street is also undergoing internal improvements. A handsome surgery is being fitted up off the front shop.

Personal.

Mr. W. F. Wells, late Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, who recently sustained a severe accident through the bursting of a cylinder in the aerated-water department of his firm, is progressing satisfactorily, and the danger of the loss of his sight is now safely passed.

He does not Know England.

Commenting last week on an action brought by a local doctor against a grocer's assistant for 6*l.*, the balance of 33*l.* due for attendance on the defendant's wife, the Recorder of Dublin said he had been battling all his life against the medical profession, and would continue fighting it as long as his life would last. He always suggested that some common-sense man would reform the system that prevailed in Ireland of charging 1*l.* fees or nothing. In England, he said, medical practitioners of the highest grade attend poor people for 1*s.* 6*d.* a visit.

The Law of Purchase through an Agent.

At the Londonderry Record Court a few days ago Mr. James McCloskey, wholesale druggist, sought to recover from Messrs. S. Dounell & Co., Londonderry, the sum of 55*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, being the price of 45 bags of Riga flaxseed sold by the plaintiff to the defendants and delivered and accepted by the latter. Defendants alleged that the brand purchased was "Sperling's Yearling," instead of which they were supplied with Rucker's brand, which was inferior. They

paid 44l. 10s. into court, and brought a cross action for loss of trade and profit. It appeared that the seed was sold to defendants by a friend of the plaintiff, who received no remuneration and who became the unpaid agent of the plaintiff. His Lordship said the plaintiff was not bound by his agent's acts in excess of what his instructions were. If the agent gave a warranty and was not authorised to give it the purchaser took the risk of that warranty being repudiated by the owner of the goods. The jury found for the plaintiff, the award being for 45 bags at 21s. each, and dismissed the defendants' counterclaim.

Pharmaceutical Chemists' and Apothecaries' Assistants' Association of Ireland.

A general meeting of this Association was held on August 9, at the XL Café, Grafton Street, Dublin. Mr. J. B. Alister, M.P.S.I., presided, and fourteen other members were present. Mr. H. C. Meyrick, L.P.S.I., recommended that copies of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and kindred chemical organs be procured and placed weekly on the table for reference. Ten new members were elected, bringing the total membership up to eighty-three. The President, in the course of an inaugural address, said they were all, or should be, fellow-students with receptive minds, and they hoped by patience and perseverance to benefit socially and intellectually by frequent intercourse. Every assistant hoped some day to become a proprietor, and it was then that the benefits of research would be estimated at their proper value. The "cramming" system of examinations might enable one to escape "plucking," but how few could say in a short time afterwards that they clearly recollected and applied even one-half of the knowledge required for the test. The "cramming" system, though useful so far as it went, was not to be encouraged: they had all "crammed" more or less in their earlier days, but for practical purposes the longest way round was the shortest way home. The Association aimed to be the ruler, guide, and friend of the irresolute student, enabling him to acquire fixity of purpose and strength of mind—qualities so essential nowadays to success. Associations such as theirs had been the means of creating lifelong friendships; and theirs was no exception, as to-night two members present, who had drifted apart for a number of years and were unaware of each other's presence in Dublin, had met accidentally at the meeting and revived the old-time friendship. It was resolved that Dr. Ninian Falkiner be asked to give an address at the next meeting; and it was also resolved that an application be made to the Pharmaceutical Society for the use of a room in their house in Lower Mount Street to hold the further meetings of the Association. Unless notified to the contrary the members will meet as usual on Friday evening at 8 o'clock, at the XL Café, 84 Grafton Street, to which communications may be sent.



Scotch News

The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

The Value of Analysts' Certificates in Foods and Drugs Cases.

The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce has been in communication with the Glasgow Chamber regarding a suggested amendment of the Food and Drugs Act with the object of providing that the certificates of the analysts, both on the part of the prosecution and of the defence, should be accepted, and that the Magistrates, on production by the defender of a certificate certifying purity, should order the third sample always provided in such cases to be sent to Somerset House for official analysis. The communication was by the directors of the Chamber of Commerce in Glasgow handed over to the Health Committee of the Town

Council for their opinion upon it, and this latter body passed it on to Mr. Fyfe, the sanitary inspector for the city, who reports on the matter as follows:—"Our experience here is that, where a case is considered sufficiently important to call for the services of a private analyst, the defender's agent almost invariably takes advantage of the privilege conferred by the 21st section of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, and requires that the public analyst shall be called as a witness. When it comes to a matter of proof as between two experts, I am not of opinion that the mere presentation of certificates would assist the judge in deciding the case. In practice, the sheriff or magistrate is usually inclined to accept the evidence of a defender's analyst as against the public analyst, and give the defender the benefit of the doubt after evidence has been led; but I am not of opinion that the mere presentation of contradictory certificates would tend to the right administration of the law. The sheriff or magistrate in his discretion has power at present to order the third sample to be sent to Somerset House, and, if there is any real doubt in his mind caused by the divergent views of two experts, he not seldom adopts this course. I am of opinion that the grievance which retail traders experience shall be met by another method—viz., that of empowering inspectors to obtain samples of goods that are, up to the time of sampling, in the possession of the manufacturers or wholesale traders." This opinion has been communicated to the Liverpool people.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A CHEVALIER PHARMACIST.—M. Regal, a naval pharmacist of the first class, has just been made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

THE FRENCH ASSOCIATION for the Advancement of Sciences has terminated a successful Congress at Bordeaux. The question of the digestibility of liquids was introduced by MM. Contru and Carrion as a result of laboratory researches made by them, and to which they drew attention as having the greatest interest for doctors and physiologists. Taking as a basis a series of analyses of gastric juice, these gentlemen have studied the action of cider and champagne on the stomach. They find that the result is favourable in cases of dyspepsia, and mentioned the fact that such maladies as gout, gravel, and stone are almost unknown in the Normandy cider-districts. In the section of Zoology, Professor Jobert, of the Dijon Faculty of Sciences, gave the result of his experiences with a plant of the strychnos order, "Pseudo Kyna," which is used in Brazilian therapeutics as a powerful febrifuge. This plant was supposed to contain no poison analogous to those of other strychnos plants, but Professor Jobert finds it contains one that produces the same effect as curare and acts on the heart. The question of alcoholism occupied nearly two sittings of the Congress. The subject of the mortality of infants at an early age was specially touched upon, and it was shown that the death-rate amongst offspring of persons given to alcoholic excess is especially great, amounting in some districts to as much as 62 per cent. The annual cost is estimated at 150,000f. (6,000l.). M. Barthes considered that the use of wine is the best antidote to the alcohol evil. A very animated discussion followed. M. Yves Guyot and others contended that the nations who drank the most alcohol show the greatest vigour, and he cited the Spaniards, Italians, &c., as being incapable of energetic work. This statement provoked some sharp replies, the fact that Italian workmen are invariably found where the hardest tasks have to be performed being quoted in contradiction.

A NEW CONSUMPTION-CURE.—At the Congress of Medicine held at Bordeaux this week, Professor Maragliano, of the University of Genoa, read an important communication on the preparation of anti-tuberculosis serum. The essential difference between his method and those of his predecessors is that he does not use—indeed, is exceedingly careful to exclude from his inoculations—the tubercle bacillus, but employs only the toxins created by that bacillus. He

operates upon dogs, asses, or horses with a bacillus-free culture fluid, the virulence of which is so great that a small injection of it kills a guinea-pig in the course of a few days; but for inoculating the animals the fluid is attenuated, and gradually increased in strength until the animals cease to exhibit symptoms of disturbance and become immune to the tubercle bacillus. By operating in this manner the Professor avoids the creation in the animal of any tuberculous lesions; he obtains from the blood of the animals treated a serum which is free from tubercle bacilli and yet contains antitoxins which clinical experiments have proved to be of value in the treatment of consumption. He is of opinion that his serum should exclude the repugnance which both medical men and patients have to inoculation with serum derived from tuberculous animals, because his animals only have symptoms of tuberculosis, and do not actually suffer from the disease—in fact, they are used only for the purpose of attenuating or diluting the natural antitoxins, and to fit them for injection into human beings. He assured his audience that his injections can do no harm in any case. They do not even cause a rise of temperature more than would be caused by the injection of simple serum. He has been studying and practising this method for three years, and has records of eighty-three cases which have been treated by him in hospital practice. These were in various stages of tuberculosis, about half of them being mild or incipient cases, the others more advanced. Of the mild cases he reports twenty-nine as cured and nearly all the rest as greatly improved. Of the others, three patients had died, several had left the hospital and he did not know their subsequent history, but most of the patients were still under treatment, and in many cases distinct improvement has been noted.

The Press on the Prescribing Chemist.

MOST of the London papers had something to say about the inquest at which an unqualified chemist's assistant gave the foolish evidence which we report elsewhere. The newspaper comments do not strike us as very wise, but samples from them may serve to show the tendency of public opinion:—

"The law as to prescribing chemists stands much in need of amendment. It is time the law stepped in and prevented such people from either prescribing medicine or giving medical aid to the sick. It is very well for men like Perdue to say he is prepared to run the risk of getting into gaol, but that is poor consolation to bereaved parents."—*The Morning*.

"Mr. John Charles Perdue, chemist's assistant without examination, declared to Mr. Wynne Baxter, Coroner for East London, that he lived only to do good. Of him it may truly be said that the good he does is interred, as an inquest was held respecting it in Limehouse Town Hall, and the Coroner afterwards duly gave his warrant for inhumation."—*The Daily Telegraph*.

"We have heard of tea-leaves as an aid to carpet-sweeping, but apparently the unqualified medico in question regarded them as a panacea for all the ills that flesh is heir to. Like 'great Auna,' in the poem, his patients would 'sometimes counsel take, and sometimes tea,' but generally the latter. It would seem, however, from the mere fact that an inquest was necessary that tea-leaves are not a specific for bronchial troubles."—*The Globe*.

"If a prosecution ceases to have any terrors for the 'prescribing chemist,' the total legislative prohibition of his activities in this direction will become imperatively necessary. In point of fact, the fatuity with which large sections of the public persist in resorting to irregular 'practitioners' of this sort is so great, and so likely to be attended with mischievous results, that it is almost a question whether there is not even now a case for the intervention of the Legislature."—*The Standard*.

"Mr. John Perdue is obviously a young gentleman whose talents do not find a sufficiently wide field of action in dispensing medicines over a chemist's counter. This seems to be his own conviction, since, as he candidly admitted to the Coroner at Limehouse, the fact that he has never passed any examination did not deter him from attending and

prescribing for sick and dying people. That he has never been indicted for manslaughter is, perhaps, only another proof of the inscrutable ways of Providence rather than an evidence of his skill."—*The Daily Chronicle*.

"For six years, Mr. John Charles Perdue told Mr. Wynne Baxter, he has attended the sick and dying and bereaved in ten districts of London. A hasty scoffer might infer that his attendances on the bereaved followed only technically on his attendance upon the sick, and were concerned primarily with the collection of fees. But that would be unjust; since Mr. Perdue declares that he never charges anyone for anything, and lives only for the good of others. So we may leave him his bereaved, while we join in the Coroner's protests against his visits to the sick. For Mr. Perdue is only a chemist's assistant who has passed no examination, and his first mistake may lead to a prosecution for manslaughter."—*The Pall Mall Gazette*.

"If there was nothing worse to be feared from unqualified medical men than was revealed in the case of Mr. Perdue at the inquest in Limehouse yesterday, the public might be tolerably easy about them. The child whom he was treating died, it is true, but clearly not from the medicine which he administered, for the qualified medical man deposed that it was 'very simple and harmless.' Things much less simple and harmless are, we fear, given by some unqualified young men, who attend 'the sick and dying and bereaved,' under cover of a qualified partner, and not for love. So long as qualified medical men can be found to use these means of enlarging their practice, it is useless for the medical profession at large to complain of the tolerance accorded to them."—*The Westminster Gazette*.

"There seems no doubt that this chemist's assistant has 'practised' so long that his patients really regard him as a qualified medical man. But he will probably escape the penalties suggested by the Coroner. We gather from the report that the medicine prescribed 'smelt strongly of tea,' and was, in fact, harmless. Whether this has anything to do with the same gentleman's boast that 'it would surprise anyone to see what I can make out of tea-leaves' we are not prepared to say. But the possibility suggests itself that a chemist's assistant might serve out bread-pills and tonics for years without incurring any criminal responsibility for doing harm to his patients. Only they would be kept meanwhile from going to qualified doctors who would treat them properly."—*St. James's Gazette*.

A Star man has visited Mr. Perdue's laboratory, in order to learn from this master mind to what fresh uses the dregs of the teapot can be put. He found Mr. Perdue hard at work, with his hands buried deep in a brown treacly compound, which proved to be his own new and original preparation for the cure of gout. Leaving his bowl of ointment, he led the way to his tea-leaf repository at the back of his premises. There, according to his own sweet will, he either turns the tea-leaf into boot-blackening or ink. For the manufacture of the former the leaves are put through a drug-press, then through various degrees of oxidation, and finally mixed with sugar, vaseline, and oils. The result is a solid compound, which is cut up into halfpenny cakes, not unlike burnt toffees, and sold as blacking. The ink is made by a different process, but this Mr. Perdue keeps hermetically sealed in his bosom. Whatever may be his true title to fame, he has certainly an inventive turn of mind, and has succeeded in getting himself, his ideas, and his wares much talked about in the locality. In this respect the inquest this week was a capital advertisement for him.

A PHARMACY BILL IN NATAL.—The Natal Parliament has before it a Bill drafted by the Pharmaceutical Society of that colony providing for the due qualification of medical men and pharmacists, organising a medical council and a pharmacy board, restricting the sales of poisons to registered persons, and preventing certain precautions when such substances are sold. Several members objected strongly to the monopoly which the Bill seemed to create, and the Prime Minister admitted there was much force in the arguments of those who opposed the Bill. It was intimated that persons used by farmers, and sheep-dips especially, should be exempted from the Bill, and, on the understanding that in this and in certain other respects it should be amended, the Bill was read a second time.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

THE monthly Council meeting was held on August 7. Present:—Mr. William Hayes (President), Messrs. Murray (Clones), Whitla (Monaghan), J. J. Bernard, Lyons (Belfast), Charles Evans, G. M. Ryan, Downes, Hodgson (Treasurer), and Conyngham.

THE DUNGANNON CASE.

A letter was read from Mr. Galway, of Belfast, solicitor, who had acted for the Society in the prosecution at Dungannon, in which Mr. R. C. Marshall, sen., chemist and druggist, had been fined 5*l.* with 1*l.* costs for a second offence of compounding a medical prescription without being qualified to do so. Mr. Galway reported that the Magistrates gave that decision before a shred of evidence had been given, and that they dismissed three other summonses without hearing any evidence—one against Mr. Marshall's son for illegal compounding, and two for illegally keeping open shop. Mr. Galway asked whether there were decisions of the High Court to the effect that keeping open shop and dispensing were separate offences.

The REGISTRAR (Mr. Ferrall) stated that he had replied to Mr. Galway's letter, stating that in the case of Williams, in the Dublin Police Court, the summonses were under section 30 of the Act of 1875 for keeping open shop, and under section 15 of the Amendment Act for unlawfully selling, and that, the defendant having pleaded guilty, the Magistrate (Mr. Swifte) imposed mitigated penalties of 3*l.* with 4*l.* costs in each case. He had also told Mr. Galway that as the Magistrates were not called on at the time to state a case, it was not deemed advisable to proceed further in the matter.

Mr. LYONS: The whole case did not occupy more than five minutes.

Mr. MURRAY said he would be in favour, in such cases, of giving the solicitor full power to call on the Magistrates to state a case if that were required; and if they refused to do so, there should be an appeal to the Queen's Bench.

Mr. LYONS said he spoke to Mr. Galway immediately after the case was over, and he said he would write to Mr. Ferrall and also to Casey & Clay on the subject.

Mr. FERRALL said he had a conversation with Mr. Clay, who said he did not think it was advisable to take any further steps in the case. That was communicated to the Law Committee; and it was in pursuance of their decision that he (Mr. Ferrall) wrote his reply.

The PRESIDENT remarked that the penalty recovered was no doubt not as large as would have been desirable; but the Law Committee were influenced in their decision by the consideration that if they brought an appeal and it were dismissed they would be in a worse position than they were at present.

The REGISTRAR read, for the information of the members, the report of the case published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

ASKING THE PRIVY COUNCIL TO REMOVE DEFENDANT FROM THE REGISTER.

Mr. DOWNES said this was Mr. Marshall's second offence. He moved that the Registrar should send his name, with a statement of the circumstances of his two convictions and copies of the solicitor's letters, to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, with a request that the name of Mr. Marshall should be removed from the register. It was time for the Council to make examples in cases of this sort.

Mr. WHITLA seconded the proposition.

The REGISTRAR: He gave a guarantee on the first occasion that he would not offend again.

Mr. WHITLA: That strengthens the case against him.

The PRESIDENT said that if the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council were to take the proposed step it would have a salutary effect on law-breakers.

Mr. MURRAY supported the motion.

Mr. CONYNTHAM said no doubt Mr. Marshall had broken the law, but it would be a very severe punishment to take his name off the register. In another case in which the defendant had been guilty of a heinous offence the Government refused to take his name off the register.

Mr. DOWNES said Mr. Marshall's second offence was not to be minimised in the face of the two guarantees that he had given. The reason why the name of the party in the case to which Mr. Conyngham referred was not removed from the register was because the offence he had committed was not one under any of the Pharmacy Acts.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

THE ROSCOMMON CASE.

A letter from Messrs. Casey & Clay, solicitors to the Society, in reference to the prosecution of Jones and others at Roscommon, stated that the writers had come to the conclusion that the decision of the Magistrates was entirely wrong, the case having been proved even without the production of the will of the former proprietor of the establishment, but that they (Messrs. Casey & Clay) were of opinion that it would not be judicious to proceed further with the case.

NOT ADMITTED TO EXAMINATION.

The case of Mr. Henry Bell, of Rathfarnham, who had applied to be admitted to the Registered Druggists' examination, was further discussed, and an order was made to the effect that, having regard to the additional light that had been thrown on the subject by their legal advisers, the Council could not see their way to acceding to Mr. Bell's request.

THE BRITISH SOCIETY DOES NOT RECOGNISE THE IRISH PRELIMINARY.

A letter from Mr. Richard Bremridge, Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, stated that the Board of Examiners of that Society had carefully considered the application of the Council of the Irish Society that the "Preliminary" examination of the latter Society should be accepted in lieu of the "First" examination of the former, and did not deem it expedient that that request should be acceded to.

The PRESIDENT: Has Mr. Bernard anything to say on this?

Mr. BERNARD: I was the only one who opposed the giving away of the birthright of the members of this Society, and I thought it would be mere huckstering to ask these gentlemen to do anything for us. Now you see the result. I was very proud of my vote, and I am proud of it still.

Mr. CONYNTHAM moved that the papers of the Society's "Preliminary," and the papers of the English Society's "First," be submitted to the examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and that they be requested to report on same. In that way they would ascertain whether there was any inferiority in the Irish Society's examination.

Mr. EVANS: I understood that the English Society had no examination of their own.

Mr. DOWNES: They have a "First" examination; but they accept the examinations of a large number of schools as an equivalent for it. But they say it is a question of expediency. It is not as to whether our examination is as good as theirs.

Mr. BERNARD: What I complain of is that an English chemist can come over here, and, without passing any Preliminary examination, go in for our Final. We cannot do the same over there. It was very foolish for us to give them that right without asking for an equivalent.

The motion of Mr. CONYNTHAM passed unanimously.

A POLICE PROSECUTION.

A letter from the district inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary at Ballymoney reported that Dr. R. C. Miller, of Dervock, was prosecuted for selling laudanum without properly labelling it, but that as none of the witnesses could swear whether the bottle had a label on it when it was received from Dr. Miller, the Magistrates dismissed the case.

Mr. LYONS: It is quite a common thing in some of the country districts to send out laudanum without a label of any description.

DANAI DONA FERENTES.

A donation was announced from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain of forty specimens of *materia medica*.

On the motion of Mr. EVANS, seconded by Mr. DOWNES, the best thanks of the Council were voted to the donors.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

The reports of the Examiners were laid on the table. From these it appeared that at the Preliminary pharmaceutical examination thirty candidates presented themselves, of whom twenty-two passed; that at the examination for pharmaceutical assistants three candidates entered, all of whom passed; that at the Dublin examination for registered druggists only one candidate offered himself, and he was rejected; that at the Belfast examination of the same class there were six entries and five passes; and that at the examination for the pharmaceutical licence there were twenty-six entries and seventeen passes.

The PRESIDENT said he had the authority of the examiners for the licence for mentioning that they were of opinion that they had never had a better lot of men before them than those who presented themselves at the last examination.

On the motion of Mr. MURRAY, seconded by Mr. CONYNGHAM, Mr. T. W. Robinson was re-elected examiner in practical pharmacy for one year.

The PRESIDENT said that Mr. Robinson had done his work excellently. They had reason to be gratified at having an examiner who was a member of their own body giving such satisfaction.

On the motion of Mr. EVANS, seconded by Mr. CONYNGHAM, Dr. Ninian Falkner was re-elected professor of botany and materia medica for one year.

NEW MEMBERS.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the VICE-PRESIDENT, Mr. Patrick J. Fielding, 80 Patrick Street, Cork, and Mr. William Armstrong Lyness, 20 Claremont Street, Belfast, were elected members of the Society.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. EVANS, Mr. James Rochfort Guest, 118 George's street, Limerick, registered druggist, was nominated for election as an associate druggist.

On the motion of Mr. LYONS, seconded by Mr. CONYNGHAM, Messrs. James Johnstone, Magdala House, Belfast; James A. Stewart, 20 Castle Place, Belfast; Robert R. Ritson, 24 Castle Lane, Belfast; R. Morrow, 25 Corn Market, Belfast; and D. L. Kirkpatrick, Donegall Pass, Belfast, were nominated for membership of the Society.

Other business having been disposed of, the Council adjourned.

Trade-Marks Applied for.

ANY person who has good grounds of objection to the registration of any of the following marks should at once communicate with Sir Reader Cook, Comptroller-General, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," July 24, 1895.)

"NESTOR"; for disinfectants, disinfecting-soap, and sheep-dip. By J. W. Drysdale & Co., 16 Creechurch Lane, London. 188,365.

"LANTHEA"; for medicines for external and internal human use. By Francis Edmond Rubbra, Market Square, Crewkerne, Somerset. 187,751.

"FROG"; for chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. By Hance Brothers & White, Philadelphia, U.S.A. 188,150.

"EXSOL"; for chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. By F. W. Fletcher, Beauchamp Lodge, Enfield. 188,387.

"SAPHO"; for perfumery and toilet articles. By Victor Klotz, trading as "El Pinaud," 37 Boulevard de Strasbourg, Paris. 188,104.

"PERSIPIT"; for a toilet-preparation for the hair and scalp. By William Carr Hebden, Albany Works, Halifax, Yorks. 183,177.

"SWEETHEART"; for toilet-preparations, &c. By Charles Simpson, The Limes, Duston Road, Northampton.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," July 31, 1895.)

"CURANILLO," and combination of devices; for fruit-extracts being medicines for human use. By Elijah John Smedley Norton, 13 South Croxted Road, West Dalwich, Surrey. 185,397.

"PILATUS," and signature; for medicated preparation for piles. By Anthony S. Harrington, 58 High Street, Bridlington, Yorkshire. 188,421.

"SATALINE"; for a preparation for the hair. By Edward John Burnell-Jones, 10 Bude Street, Appledore, Devon. 187,953.

"NALLA"; for perfumery and toilet articles, &c. By Allan Macdonald Nicolson, 61 Victoria Street, Newton Stewart, Scotland. 188,428.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," August 7, 1895.)

"EXSOL"; for chemical substances used for agricultural, veterinary purposes, &c. By F. W. Fletcher, Beauchamp Lodge, Enfield. 188,758.

"UKA"; for a medicine for human use. David Hunter Oxen, 40 Bridge Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, chemist and druggist. 187,832.

"EVER READY," and other wording, and signature on three-panel label (the essential particular is signature); for plasters &c. By Ferris & Co., Bristol. 186,028.

"HAWKES EYE"; for a patent medicine. By John Richard Rumney, trading as John Richards & Co., 22 Tremlett Grove, Junction Road, N., commission agent. 186,621.

"AMMONINE," and device of "St. John's Hospital School gate"; for a medicine for human use. By John Wynne Tighe, trading as Wynne Tighe & Son, 3 & 4 High Street, Exeter. 188,292.

"THISTLE," and a combination of devices; for carbonate of ammonia used as an ingredient in food. By the Western Chemical Company, 15 Gordon Street, Glasgow. 188,014.

"PANSALIA"; for perfumery and toilet articles. By The Sharo Brothers' Soap & Perfumery Company (Limited). 188,447.

"ANNOLIA"; for perfumed soaps. By Geo. Alfred Payne, Laurel Lodge, Hunger Hills, Nottingham. 188,454.

"ZALONE"; for compressed drugs and medicines for human use. By Samuel Bergheim, 62 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C. 188,802.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," August 14, 1895.)

"EMPRESS," and device of a steamship; for photographic plates. By Britannia Works Company (Limited), Ilford, Essex. 188,115.

"KEENWELL," and combination of devices; for medicines in tablets for human use. By Keene & Ashwell, 47 New Bond Street, W. 188,101.

"NALLA"; for a preparation for chapped hands and sunburn in the form of a jelly. By Allan Macdonald Nicolson, 64 Victoria Street, Newton Stewart, N.B. 188,673.

"MAY QUEEN"; for an ointment for human use. By Fred May, 23 Grove Road, Bow, E. 188,865.

THE GERMAN ASSOCIATION, which is the equivalent of the British Association, will meet in Lübeck, on September 15. If any English pharmacists are in the neighbourhood, they may find it advantageous to attend. There will be much social enjoyment, and the papers in the chemistry and pharmacy sections will be worth listening to. In the former Dr. Elinger, of Freiburg, is to speak on automatic disinfection with cyanogen compounds, and there will be discussions on the atomic and stereo-chemical theories, Professor Wislicenus, of Leipzig, taking up the latter. The most interesting subjects in the pharmaceutical section that we notice are on "The Birdlime and Acacia Gums of the Pharaohs" by Baron von Oe'e, and on the "Spectroscopic Examination and Testing of Vegetable Extracts," by Dr. W. Sick, of Hamburg.



HOLMESDALE, NUTFIELD, SURREY (residence of Charles Maw, Esq.).



F. R. Maw,

S. R. Maw,
C. T. Maw,
A. T. Maw.

F. T. Maw,

Charles Maw,

M. T. Maw,

P. T. Maw,

G. T. Maw,
H. T. Maw,

O. P. Maw.

The Eleven Maws.

A PARTICULARLY interesting cricket match was played on Saturday last, August 10, on Mr. Charles Maw's beautiful estate at Nutfield in Surrey. The picture on the opposite page gives a glimpse of the home of the gentleman whose name is perhaps better known than any other to the chemists and druggists of this country. It is situated on very high ground some two miles to the east of Redhill Station, and sloping away from the house extend the lovely valleys of Surrey and Sussex bounded by the downs to the north of Brighton and Worthing. Mr. Maw has been invalided at home for some two years, but his many personal friends will notice with pleasure that he figures in the photograph which we reproduce in full cricketing uniform, though, as will be seen from the sequel, his services in the field were not necessary.

The cricket ground on the estate has been laid out by himself, and is surrounded by shrubbery and noble trees. His sons and their friends have made the "Homesdale" C.C. formidable, and they have for many years had an annual match with the best team which the "Aldersgate" C.C. could send down. Only once have the city lads come back victorious. This year for the first time the Holmesdale team was comprised of Maws exclusively. The "Eleven Maws" were Mr. Charles Maw, his seven sons, and three of his nephews. The ten younger ones were all great grandsons of George Maw, who in 1807 founded the house now known under the style of S. Maw, Son & Thompson.

As the appended score shows, the Aldersgate cricketers were never in it. They were overmatched in all departments of the game. It was considered that the rain of the previous night accounted for the moderate score in the first innings, but this theory had to be abandoned in face of the brilliant batting shown by the few representatives of the eleven Maws who appeared at the wickets. Messrs. P. T. and M. T. Maw were just over an hour compiling the first hundred runs credited to them jointly, and neither player gave the ghost of a chance. P. T. Maw, it should be stated, is in the Harrow Eleven, and played very successfully in the Eton v. Harrow match this year. His cricket is of a very stylish character, and he will probably be heard of in the future in the first rank. He also bowled through the two innings of the Aldersgate players, and took 7 wickets for 23 runs. The bowling honour of the day was, however, due to C. T. Maw (Mr. Maw's eldest son and partner), whose 6 wickets for 5 runs was a noteworthy performance. The score of the match stood as follows:—

ALDERSGATE C.C.

First innings.				Second innings.			
Hopley, b F. T. Maw..	..	..	4	not out ..	..	..	0
Frewer, c C. P. Maw, b F. T. Maw	8			b C. T. Maw ..	..	..	10
Crane, b P. T. Maw ..	..	..	1	c and b P. T. Maw	..	..	1
Howard, c C. T. Maw, b P. T. Maw	6			run out ..	..	..	7
Ballantyne, c F. R. Maw, b F. T. Maw	1			b C. T. Maw ..	..	..	0
Clay, c M. T. Maw, b F. T. Maw ..	0			c C. P. Maw, b C. T. Maw	3		
Lawrence, st F. R. Maw, b F. T. Maw	5			c H. T. Maw, b P. T. Maw	4		
Coates, c H. T. Maw, b P. T. Maw	3			c Sub., b P. T. Maw ..	1		
Masters, c P. T. Maw, b F. T. Maw	5			c C. P. Maw, b C. T. Maw	0		
Cameron, b P. T. Maw ..	..	..	0	b C. T. Maw ..	..	..	0
Haylock, not out ..	..	..	1	b C. T. Maw ..	..	..	0
Extras ..	..	..	3	Extras ..	..	..	6
Total ..	..	..	37	Total ..	..	..	32

ELEVEN MAWS.

P. T. Maw, c Cameron, b Lawrence	66
M. T. Maw, lbw, b Lawrence ..	59
F. T. Maw, not out ..	26
F. R. Maw, not out ..	9
G. T. Maw,	} Did not bat.
C. T. Maw,	
A. T. Maw,	
H. T. Maw,	
C. P. Maw,	
S. R. Maw,	
Charles Maw,	
Extras ..	4
Total ..	164*

* Innings declared closed.

Drug Culture in British Central Africa.

MR ALEX. WHYTE, the botanist, who has founded botanical gardens at Zomba, and is head of the Scientific Department in British Central Africa, has recently sent home a valuable report on the botanical aspects of the province. (Foreign Office Report, No. 373, Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1½d., by post 2½d.) In regard to the general aspects of the subject, how Mr. Whyte founded the gardens, and similar matters, we must refer those interested to the report itself. Here we propose to quote those passages which are specially interesting to the drug trade.

Coffee and tobacco grow well and are a commercial success. *Tea* will grow, and Mr. Whyte has great hopes for *cocoa*, especially if planted in shades of pimento, nutmeg, &c. trees.

The best varieties of *Cinchona* had a fair trial in the Shire Highlands, and did well, but from the extremely low price to which bark has fallen, it has not been found remunerative. Mr. Whyte advises farmers to keep up a small cultivation of good kinds. It costs little, need not be harvested until remunerative prices are to be had, and the older the trees become the more enhanced is the value of the property. [There Mr. Whyte is not quite right—Ed.]

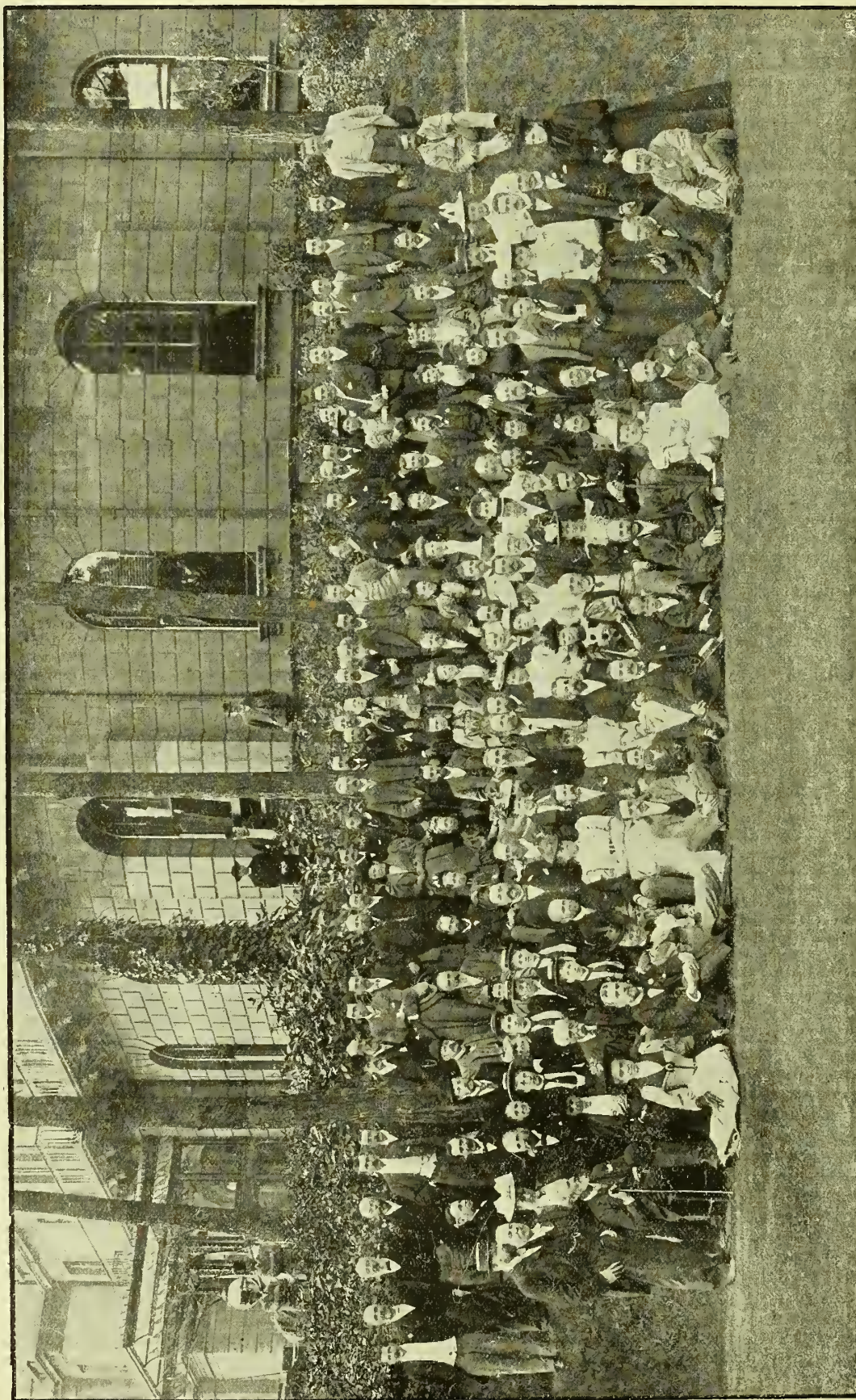
Indiarubber receives full attention in the report, and if all that Mr. Whyte says is to be realised Nyasaland will yield regular supplies in a few years. Already some species of *landolphia* are indigenous to the country, and others of noted yielding-power will be introduced. East and West Africa between them at present export a seventh of the indiarubber received in the United Kingdom.

Regarding spices, Mr. Whyte states that *nutmegs* will be suitable for the plateau of Nyasaland, and prove remunerative. The trees take from six to eight years to come into bearing, and would form good shade and shelter for cacao. The cost of preparing the produce for the market is very trifling; several West Indian planters have told Mr. Whyte that this cultivation has been of great assistance to them of late years. The best situations for nutmeg groves are the sheltered valleys extending down from the gorges in the mountain ranges to the plains. Mr. Whyte has arranged to get fresh supplies of nuts, with cacao pods, from the West Indies. He also strongly recommends planters to establish nurseries of many of the minor economic plants, such as cardamoms, pepper, ginger, turmeric, arrowroot, capsicums, sesame, &c. It is impossible to say what turn the markets may take, and a product which may be unremunerative one year may sell at the next at a price which would yield a handsome return.

New Books.

- Brunton, T. L., M.D. *Modern Developments of Harvey's Work*. The Harveyan Oration, 1894. Pp. 36. 8vo. 2s. (Macmillan.)
- Eccles, A. S., M.D. *The Practice of Massage, its Physiological Effects and Therapeutic Uses*. Pp. xii and 378. Extra crown 8vo. 7s. 6d. net. (Macmillan.)
- Gillies, H. C., M.D. *The Theory and Practice of Counter-Irritation*. Pp. xii and 236. 8vo. 6s. net. (Macmillan.)
- Jones, H. L. *Medical Electricity: a Practical Handbook for Students and Practitioners*. 2nd edit. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 483. 10s. 6d. (H. K. Lewis.)
- Massee, G. *British Fungus-Flora: A Classified Text-book of Mycology* Vol. 4. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 530. 7s. 6d. (Bell.)
- Meuschelkin, Professor A. *Analytical Chemistry*. Translated from the third German edition, under the supervision of the author, by James Locke. Pp. xii and 512. Medium 8vo. 17s. net. (Macmillan.)
- Napheys, G. H. *Physical Life of Woman: Advice to the Maiden, Wife and Mother*. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 328. 5s. (Homeopathic Publishing Company.)
- Reid, G. *Practical Sanitation: a Handbook for Sanitary Inspectors and others*. 3rd edit. revised. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 344. 6s. (Griffin.)
- Tilden, W. A. *Introduction to the Study of Chemical Philosophy*. New edit. 12mo. Pp. 268. 4s. 6d. (Longmans.)
- Whetham, W. C. D. *Solution and Electrolysis*. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 304. 7s. 6d. (Cambridge Univ. Press.)
- Westland, A. *The Wife and Mother: a Medical Guide to the Care of her Health, and the Management of her Children*. 2nd edit. 8vo. Pp. 296 5s. (Griffin.)

The British Pharmaceutical Conference at Bournemouth.



A Group photographed by Messrs. Debenham & Gould at the Hotel Mont Dore, on Tuesday, July 30 1895



KEY TO CONFERENCE GR UP.

WE shall be glad to receive postcards of identification from any in the group who are not named, and next week we shall make a note of names so received.

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Miss Johnstone | 23. Mrs. Michael Carteighe, London | 61. Mr. J. Bates, Wellington (Salop) | 95. Mr. T. B. Groves, Poole |
| 2. Mr. Eadie, Boscombe | 29. Mr. J. Laidlaw Ewing, Edinburgh | 62. Mr. John A. Wink, London | 96. Mr. J. Hughes, Swansea |
| 3. Mrs. Conroy, Liverpool | | 64. Mrs. Charles Symes, Liverpool | 97. Mr. G. A. Grierson, York |
| 4. Mr. A. J. Conroy, Boscombe | 31. Mr. G. F. Schacht, Clifton | 65. Dr. Charles Symes, Liverpool | 99. Mr. E. J. Parry, London |
| 5. Master Rex Bridge, Bournemouth | 33. Mr. T. C. Sheppard, Chester | 66. Mrs. Wiak, London | 100. Mr. Theodore Wright, London |
| 6. Mr. W. Prior Robinson, Clapham | 34. Mr. M. Conroy, Liverpool | 67. Mr. E. H. Farr, Uckfield | 102. Mr. W. P. Want, London |
| 7. Master Mark Bridge, Bournemouth | 35. Mr. Richard Bremridge, London | 68. Mr. D. Lloyd Howard, London | 104. Mr. J. C. Nightengale, London |
| 8. Mr. T. Tame, Boscombe | 36. Miss Louisa Bremridge, London | 69. Mr. F. C. J. Bird, London | 103. Mr. R. Glode Guyer, London |
| 9. Mrs. Hutton, Leamington | 37. Mr. Wm. Warren, London | 70. Miss Bird, London | 108. Mr. John Smith, Liverpool |
| 10. Mr. H. Hutton, Leamington | 40. Mrs. Arkinstall, London | 71. Mr. John Humphrey, London | 109. Mr. J. H. Williams, Bournemouth |
| 11. Mr. A. J. Pidd, Manchester | 42. Miss Brackett | 73. Mr. A. E. Hobbs, Bournemouth | 110. Mr. S. T. Weston, London |
| 12. Mr. J. Wheeldon, Manchester | 42A. Mrs. Grierson, York | 74. Mrs. Hobbs, Bournemouth | 111. Mr. H. Wilson, Southampton |
| 13. Mrs. Bilson, Bournemouth | 44. Mr. Gibson, Brighton | 75. Mrs. Farr, Uckfield | 112. Mrs. Weston, London |
| 14. Mr. F. E. Bilson, Bournemouth | 45. Mr. A. Smithson, Brighton | 76. Mr. Wm. Jones, Bournemouth | 115. Mr. R. Chipperfield, Southampton |
| 15. Mr. E. W. Lucas, London | 46. Mrs. Smithson, Brighton | 77. Mr. R. L. Whigham, London | |
| 16. Mrs. Lucas, London | 47. Mr. Henry Mathews, London | 78. Mr. John H. Mathews, London | 116. Mr. Edmund White, London |
| 17. Mr. Bullen, Ashby-de-la-Zouch | 43. Mr. John A. Toone, Bournemouth | 79. Miss Taylor, London | 117. Mr. R. C. Cowley, Liverpool |
| 18. Mrs. D. Lloyd Howard, London | 49. Mr. G. S. Taylor, London | 80. Mrs. Torpin, Clifton | 118. Mr. A. Fraser, Paisley |
| 19. Mr. Hinds, Coventry | 50. Mrs. S. Hardwick, Bournemouth | 81. Mr. G. D. Beggs, Da kley | 120. Mr. E. M. Holmes, London |
| 20. Mrs. Toone, Bournemouth | 51. Mrs. J. C. Umney, London | 82. Miss Taylor, London | 121. Mr. Theo. H. Wardleworth, Liverpool |
| 21. Mr. F. Ransom, Hitchin | 52. Mr. John C. Umney, London | 83. Mrs. A. H. Toone, Exmouth | |
| 22. Mrs. Ransom, Hitchin | 53. Miss Martin, Newcastle-on-Tyne | 84. Mr. Arthur H. Toone, Exmouth | 123. Mrs. E. M. Holmes Sevenoaks |
| 23. Mr. S. R. Atkins, Salisbury | 54. Mr. George A. Bridge, Bournemouth | 85. Mrs. Pettinger, London | 124. Mr. Arthur Bryan, London |
| 24. Mrs. Martin, Newcastle-on-Tyne | 55. Mrs. Hardwick, Bournemouth | 86. Mr. Elmer Pettinger, London | 125. Mr. J. A. Baker, Bridgewater |
| 25. Mr. N. H. Martin, Newcastle-on-Tyne | 56. Mr. W. B. Botham, Bournemouth | 87. Mr. R. Taubman, London | 126. Mr. H. C. Jones, London |
| 26. Mrs. Bridge, Bournemouth | 58. Mr. M. Carteighe, London | 88. Mr. Peter MacEwan, London | 127. Mr. G. Hinton Lake, Exeter |
| 27. Mr. W. A. H. Naylor, London | 59. Miss Hardwick | 89. Mr. John Moss, London | 128. Mr. Wm. Townsend, Exeter |
| | 60. Miss Wink, London | 90. Mr. W. Arkinstall, London | 129. Mr. J. W. Gadd, Exeter |
| | | 91. Mr. Spinney, Bournemouth | 130. Mr. H. Collier, London |
| | | 92. Mr. N. M. Grose, Swansea | |

Quatrains by "Minor" Poets.

PHARMACEUTICAL FAILURES.

Last night an apprentice in Leek
Attempted some rather to seek
With a long lighted taper, which ignited the vapour,
And his funeral is one day this week. T.
A chemist's assistant did trip
In dispensing a Harley Street "scrip."
'Twas aqua menth. vir.—the doctor wrote, "Sir,
You've given my patient the 'pip.'"
VERNON.

There was a young chemist of Ince
Had a chance his great skill to evince,
But for some bitor, he dispensed hyd. perchlor.,
And his shop's been to let ever since.
W. F. C.

There was a young chemist of Kensing-
Ton took a few lessons in fencing;
'Twas too great a toil—he gave up the foil,
And stuck to the "Art of Dispensing."
W. ARTHUR BRAY.

There was a young man of Kildare
Had some pot. permang. pills to prepare;
Some sugar, alas! got into the mass,
And now he is minus his hair. T.

A chemist at Haverstock Hill
Was making some phosphorus pill;
He used a hot mortar, but omitted the water,
And died without making a will.
W. A. GRACE

There was a young man of Lancaster
Who attempted to spread a big plaster;
His iron was too hot, and burnt the lot,
Which somewhat annoyed his master.
W. G. T.

A student was testing pot. chlor.,
And he added H₂SO₄;
He then applied heat, found himself in the street,
And now there's an inquest next door.
C. GOULD.

At a chemical town in the West
The boys for a joke had a zest;
One upset a cart of pulv. acid. tart.—
Got collar'd—he'll betula test (taste).
E. PICARD.

Legal Reports.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND v. BARNES.

In the Southern Police Court, Dublin, on August 9, Mr. Swifté gave judgment in the case of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland v. Mrs. Emma Henrietta Barnes, of 3 Harcourt Road, Dublin. The case was fully reported in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of August 3.

Mr. Swifté first recapitulated the evidence, and referred especially to the letter of the assistant Corcoran, dated June 10 last, stating that he was acting "strictly according to the letter received on his appointment." Mr. Swifté said a witness who could write that letter and on the very same day make up the prescription in question was unworthy of credit. Corcoran swore that he produced both the prescription-book and the order-book to Mr. Walker, and he denied that he pocketed the 1s. 3d. which he received for the prescription, and which he said was included in a sum of 2s. 11d. entered as "sundries." Mr. Walker swore positively that Corcoran never showed him either the prescription-book or the order-book, and that he never knew of Corcoran's compounding until an admission to that effect was dragged out of Corcoran. Mrs. Barnes had admitted that she had seen the announcement "Prescriptions Compounded" on the window. He (Mr. Swifté) had inspected the outside of the premises for the purpose of seeing how far the invitation to the public to come in and have their prescriptions compounded extended, and he never saw an invitation more eager or gushing. The legend appeared four times—viz., first in white letters arched and enamelled on the glass of the door; then very prominently in large black letters on a white ground of apparently some sort of enamel across the whole length of the window; thirdly, in painted large capitals on a wall adjoining that window; and fourthly, in capitals of enormous size, visible at a great distance off, painted at the top of the front of the house. He saw no reason to question the *bona fides* of Mr. Walker in writing the letters of April 17 and June 7. He thought that on behalf of his client, the defendant, he really wished to guard against any breach of the pharmacy laws by Corcoran. Mr. Clay had urged that the letters were a mere blind, and indicated collusion, and that they were written in order that they might be produced afterwards in case of a prosecution with a view to exculpating the client. Independently of the fact that he had no reason to believe Mr. Walker to be other than an honourable member of an honourable profession, he saw no sufficient motive on his part for the hatching of so deep laid a plot, and as far as personal or professional character was concerned, he freely acquitted Mr. Walker of any improper conduct or motive. It was clear that his client also had no intention of breaking the law. But, on the other hand, he held that the defendant and Mr. Walker were guilty of culpable negligence, amounting to something like constructive complicity, and practically making her an accessory before the fact in allowing the outside of the shop to remain just as it had been in Mr. Atkinson's time. Labels had been produced which had been attached by Corcoran to bottles and prescriptions, and which bore Mr. Atkinson's name and the words "Prescriptions carefully compounded." He (Mr. Swifté) did not attach much importance to the fact that drugs and materials used in compounding had been retained in the shop, and which might have been sold separately without involving any offence; but he could not get over the quadruple invitation on the outside of the shop, in addition to which the name "R. D. Atkinson, L.P.S.I.," with the words "chemist and druggist," in large capitals, was the only name that appeared on the shop. The defendant lived opposite, and for the last four months had been looking at that standing temptation to her servant to break the law. Her statement that she intended to remodel the premises was a totally inadequate excuse; those announcements might have been obliterated, covered over, or cancelled at a small expense. He did not consider it to have been proved that Corcoran pocketed the proceeds of the prescription; it was one thing to declare him untruthful, and another to hold him guilty of embezzlement. The conclusion to which he came was that the 1s. 3d. did go into the defendant's

pocket, but that neither the defendant nor Mr. Walker knew that it was the price of making up a prescription. The 30th section of the Irish Pharmacy Act enacted that "It shall be unlawful for any person to sell or keep open shop for retailing, dispensing, or compounding poisons . . . or medical prescriptions" unless possessed of a qualification which the defendant admittedly did not possess. The prohibitory language was perhaps a little ambiguous, as it was not quite clear at first sight how many of the three verbs used applied to the words "medical prescriptions," though they all applied to the word "poisons." Did the words "retailing" or "dispensing" apply to "prescriptions" as well as "poisons"? It seemed to him that, strictly speaking, they did not, unless two different meanings were attributed to the word "prescription." When they spoke of compounding a prescription that must mean putting together the ingredients prescribed, although in strictness the prescription meant not the ingredients but the order of the physician, which would not involve any compounding at all if only a single drug were prescribed. Moreover, the word "prescription," besides meaning strictly the order itself and popularly the separate ingredients to be compounded, had also a third meaning, and included the compound as made up without recognising that meaning. He did not see how the words "retail" and "dispense" could apply, for what a chemist would retail or dispense would be the compound when made up. He had gone into this perhaps over-refined discussion, because the summons only charged the defendant with having "compounded" a prescription, and not with having either "retailed" or "dispensed" it. This might be a material omission, but he (the Magistrate) thought the summons was right in form, and that the offence was proved if the act of compounding was established, even if the defendant gave away the compound and did not sell it at all, or even if he retained it after making it up. The offence was the act of compounding.

Mr. Swifté then dealt at great length with the argument submitted to him by Mr. Jefferson on behalf of the defendant, and with the cases which that gentleman had quoted in support of his contention that the employer was not responsible, seeing that the offence, if it had been committed, had been done by the servant without the knowledge of, and indeed in contravention to, the orders of the employer. Mr. Swifté analysed these cases and quoted others, relying particularly on the case *Brown v. Foot*, in which it was held on appeal to the High Court that the defendant was liable to a penalty under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, though the adulteration had been made by his servant without his knowledge, and, indeed, contrary to his orders. The Court said the words in the Act were an absolute prohibition. The offence was not to be committed, and no condition was made that it must be knowingly committed before the penalty could be imposed. So it was, said Mr. Swifté, in section 30 of the Pharmacy Act of Ireland. On the best consideration he could give to the matter, and feeling the question to be not free from difficulty, he now decided as a question of fact, or a mixed question of law and fact, that Corcoran being in sole charge of a shop which was designated as a chemist and druggist's, and the outside of which teemed with invitations to the public to come in and have their "prescriptions compounded" there, while the means of compounding were left within Corcoran's immediate reach—having regard to all that, and to the fact that the defendant was masquerading as a licentiate of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, there being nothing to show the public that "R. D. Atkinson" was not a woman, as only the initials, and not the Christian name, were given, it seemed to him (Mr. Swifté) impossible for the defendant to successfully contend that Corcoran was not acting "within the scope of his employment" in compounding the prescription in question. He must, therefore, hold her liable for his act, notwithstanding Mr. Walker's letters, the effect of which, though he believed them to have been written *bona fide*, was largely, if not wholly, neutralised by the inexplicable negligence of leaving, as they were, the flaming announcements to which he had referred. As Corcoran had been, since the present case was at hearing, fined for his share in the offence, as he (Mr. Swifté) held Mr. Walker's letters to have been written *bona fide*, and as he believed what occurred to have been brought about rather by the negligence of the defendant and her legal adviser,

and by their not realising the probable effects of their negligence, than by any actual intention to break the law, he thought it would be sufficient to fine the defendant in the mitigated penalty of 3*l.*, and he would award the complainants 2*l.* costs in addition.

On Mr. Clay's representation that they had had to bring seven witnesses, including Mrs. Atkinson, from the county of Kildare, Mr. Swift increased the costs to 3*l.*

On Saturday, August 10, Mr. Swift said he would like to make a few observations in reference to the case of the Pharmaceutical Society against Barnes in which he delivered judgment the previous day. On looking over some of the papers that morning, the report of his judgment, it seemed to him, was accurate as far as it went save for a slight verbal error, open to be misunderstood, with reference to Mr. Walker, who acted for the defendant. In consequence of the observations of the solicitor for the Pharmaceutical Society, he (Mr. Swift) was anxious and careful to state that Mr. Walker, in his instructions to the shop-assistant, exercised every care, and acted perfectly *bonâ fide*, but he added that he considered that this precaution was largely or wholly neutralised in its legal effect by the notices on the windows and walls. He did not intend thereby to convey that Mr. Walker was personally responsible for this. On the contrary, he might observe that some of the documents put in evidence went to show that, so far as Mr. Walker was concerned, he had endeavoured to provide a remedy against the continuance of the objectionable notices. He thought it right to make these observations in justice to Mr. Walker.

Mr. Walker expressed his thanks to his Worship.

THE] TITLE "VETERINARY SURGEON."

At Scarborough Police Court, on August 8, Thomas Danby Belt, farrier, Hunmanby, was summoned for alleged infringement of the Veterinary Surgeons Act at Gushorpe on May 9.

Mr. G. E. Royle, instructed by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, prosecuted, and, defendant pleading guilty, Mr. Royle stated that he was instructed to ask for a nominal penalty. Defendant through the agency of his son, who lived with him, sold a bottle of horse-medicine to Mr. Sawdor, of Scarborough. The bottle bore a label, on which was "Belt's anti-spasmodic gripe-medicine for horses; prepared by T. D. Belt, veterinary surgeon, Hunmanby." The maximum penalty was 20*l.*, and this case was undoubtedly the beginning of a crusade by the College against unlicensed practitioners. As this was the first case, he was prepared to ask the Bench to deal lightly with the defendant, but it must be understood that they were going to put in operation energetic measures for the suppression of the improper use of the title by farriers and cow-doctors. A fine of 20*s.*, including costs, was imposed.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

DEFICIENT SEIDLITZ-POWDERS.

At the Bolton-by-Bowland Police Court (West Riding of Yorkshire), on August 12, Benjamin Robinson, a drug-dealer, grocer, &c., of the Post Office, Gisburn, was summoned on a charge of selling seidlitz-powders of deficient quantity and strength, contrary to section 6 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1875. Mr. S. Bruton prosecuted. Inspector Randerson gave evidence of the purchase of the seidlitz-powders and produced the analyst's certificate, which stated that the contents of the four papers in question weighed respectively 154.5, 158.1, 163.1, and 163.5 gr., averaging 159.8 gr. Of this 27 gr. only consisted of bicarbonate of sodium, as against 40 gr. directed by the British Pharmacopœia to be present in the contents of each blue paper. The contents of the white papers averaged 32.1 gr. in weight, instead of 38 gr. directed by the B.P. The defence was that the powders were purchased from Hovenden & Sons, wholesale dealers, London, who had written to the defendant saying that the samples in question would have depreciated by damp; and that if the inspector had asked for B.P. powders he would have been supplied with them. The prosecuting solicitor as against this quoted the case of "White v. Bywater," on which he argued that an inspector was not bound to state

"B.P." strength in any such inquiry. The Magistrates fined the defendant 10*s.* and 1*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* costs.

TINCTURE OF RHUBARB.

At the Halifax Police Court, on August 10, Jonathan Mitchell, grocer, Greetland, was charged with selling, on July 3, tincture of rhubarb which was not of the nature, quality, and substance demanded, to the prejudice of the purchaser. The County Analyst certified that the tincture was not of the alcoholic strength required by the British Pharmacopœia. For the defence it was alleged that the tincture was sold in the same condition as received from the wholesale firm, and that defendant bought it as genuine tincture of rhubarb. The Bench considered the case proved, and inflicted a fine of 20*s.* and 18*s.* costs; but the Chairman informed defendant that he had a remedy against the firm of whom he purchased the drug.

AN ANALYST'S MISTAKE.

At Guildford Petty Sessions, on August 7, Mr. K. E. Joyce, baker, &c., 2 Woodbridge Road, was summoned, under the Food and Drugs Act, for selling adulterated self-raising flour. Mr. Gilbert White, who defended, pleaded not guilty, and Mr. Edwin Bonner, who appeared on behalf of the Town Council, said the circumstances were very peculiar. A sample of the flour was analysed by Dr. Angell, who gave a certificate stating that the sample contained 1 per cent. of alumina, equal to 70 gr. per lb. of flour. Defendant sent his sample to Dr. Bernard Dyer, who gave a certificate to the effect that the sample contained no alum or alumina at all. That morning he had received a telegram from Dr. Angell, asking for the summons to be withdrawn because his certificate was incorrect. The Bench made an order accordingly, and allowed defendant 2*l.* 10*s.* costs.

COVENANTS BETWEEN DOCTORS.

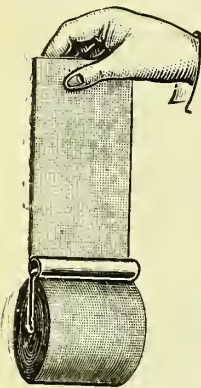
On August 12, at the Barnard Castle County Court, Dr. Maurice Keottlitz, practising at Butterknowle, and Dr. Fox, practising at Cockfield (in partnership), brought an action against Dr. George E. Vivian, of Staindrop, claiming the sum of 40*l.* for breach of covenant contained in an indenture dated March 1, 1895, and for an injunction restraining the defendant from practising at Cockfield. The facts alleged for the plaintiffs were that before March last Dr. Fox acted at Cockfield as assistant to Dr. Vivian. Afterwards he and Dr. Keottlitz entered into partnership, and, by an indenture dated March 1 last, purchased the defendant's Cockfield practice, and the defendant, by the same document, covenanted that he would not, either for himself or anyone else, carry on the profession of physician at Cockfield, under a penalty to be recovered as liquidated damages of 20*l.* per day. During July of this year he, however, attended a Mrs. Summerson for two days, without in any manner acquainting the plaintiffs. These facts were not disputed; but for the defence it was urged that before the deed was finally agreed to the plaintiffs were told that Mrs. Summerson had retained defendant's services for an event expected in July, and that as the matter was mentioned to the plaintiffs at the time it was outside the covenant. At the time (March) no objection was made to the defendant attending this lady. Numerous cases were referred to, and in the end his Honour found that the deed superseded anything verbal, and gave a verdict for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed, but refused the injunction asked for. Application for costs on the higher scale was also not entertained.

HAMBURG POTATO-SPIRIT.—It is reported that the three important rectifiers in Hamburg who have been competing with each other for some time are now conducting business under one management, and are represented by one agent in London. Further, that this combination is not likely to raise the present price materially; indeed, the fact that henceforth the raw material will be brought from Russia and northern Europe through the new Baltic canal at a reduced rate of transportation will enable the manufacturers to place it on the market at a cheaper rate.

Trade Notes and Novelties.

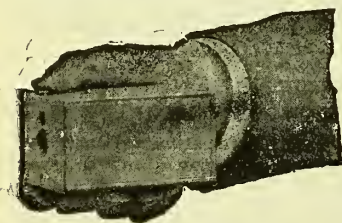
NON-RUNAWAY BANDAGE.

MESSRS. REYNOLDS & BRANSON, of Leeds, are the makers of this bandage—"Won't Runaway Bandage" would have been a better name for it. It is a simple affair. An ordinary bandage is wound round a cardboard tube, and when rolled a piece of elastic is put through the tube and through an outer tube, as shown in the figure. This does not interrupt unwinding of the bandage; but it ensures that if one has the misfortune to drop the bandage it does not roll all over the room, but hangs as shown in the figure. We understand that a Leeds medical practitioner, Dr. Duke, suggested the bandage, and as carried out many more doctors will appreciate the improvement, as it is calculated to save them—may we say?—endless worry.



A POCKET-KODAK.

THE EASTMAN PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS COMPANY (LIMITED), 115 to 117 Oxford Street, W., have introduced



one of the smartest photographic things we have seen, in the shape of a pocket-kodak, which takes pictures 2 inches by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch, and carries a spool for twelve film negatives. The camera consists of a box covered with Russia leather,

which the body of the camera, made of aluminium, fits into. As sent out the camera contains a spool of film, the peculiarity of which is that it is rolled up with a piece of black paper longer than itself. The first thing the owner of the kodak does is to set this film, which means simply to pull off about 6 inches of the black paper, pass it round the back of the camera and into the spool at the other, or right-hand, side. When that is done—and it can be done in ordinary daylight—the camera body is replaced in the box, and the right-hand spool wound up until a figure 1 appears through a little red window at the back. It is now ready for use, and pressure of a button does the rest. The shutter is clever and ingenious. It is a double-fan one. The lower portion contains the hole, the upper is smaller, and on moving the button to the left the small fan covers the hole in the larger one, the whole being simultaneously set. Pressure on the button releases it. The third movement is lifting the button up and turning it round 90 degrees; this sets it for time exposures, and all one has to do then is to press the button, which opens the shutter, and it stays open until the button is pressed once more. The camera can be used for plates. It is not a toy, yet it is one of those things that any smart chemist may sell half-a-dozen or a dozen of quickly; and as the price is a guinea, and the discount good, we have no doubt that many will write to the Eastman Company for further particulars and terms.

IRISH VACCINE LYMPH.

MESSRS. OPPENHEIMER, SON & CO. (LIMITED), of Worship Street, E.C., have been appointed sole wholesale agents for

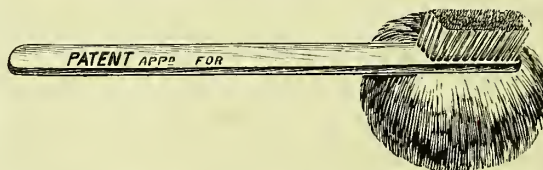
Great Britain and the English-speaking colonies for the National Vaccine Institute, Dublin. We are told that Irish cattle are healthier than other European breeds, and that this specially favours a safe vaccine; while Dr. Denham, the superintendent of the Institute, uses all that science can do to keep the production and packing of the vaccine on strictly aseptic lines.

NEW PREMISES.

THE various enterprises in which Messrs. Hertz & Collingwood are engaged—which include the Laurent-Perrier champagnes (sans-sucre and coca-tonic), their new combination of cinchona with sherry (Jerezona), several medicinal mineral-waters and the Rosbach natural table water, and Jensen's cod-liver oil—have at last driven the office department of that business out of the extensive premises in Sussex Place, Leadenhall Street, which will henceforth serve as warehouse only. The partners and their clerks have migrated across the road to extensive and handsomely-fitted rooms on the lower ground-floor of a fine new building at 38 Leadenhall Street, at the corner of Billiter Street. We are informed by the firm that, in consequence of the interim injunction granted against them last week by Mr. Justice Stirling, in respect to Franz Josef water, they are now selling the water which they lately supplied under that title labelled as the "H. & C. Natural Hungarian Aperient-water."

A HANDY BRUSHWASHER.

THIS brush, which we figure here, is a dish-washer, made by Messrs. Pinfold & Co., of Bradford. Chemists who do a brush-trade will find it good stock. The washer has on one side a fibre brush, on the other a mop of cotton-yelds, and it is surprising how effective the instrument is for getting into corners, &c, while the fact that dishes, pots, and pans can be thoroughly cleaned without putting both



hands into the water is an advantage which housewives can best appreciate. We can recall many purposes for which we could have used such a brush in our apprentice days, when we were growing too big to do some things that were necessary for the progress of pharmacy. Will apprentice-masters of to-day take the hint, and save the feelings of their pupils by placing one or two of these washers at the sink?

COUNTER-ADJUNCTS.

WE have received from Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb, Bartholomew Close, E.C., an advance copy of the fourth edition of their book, "Hawley's Counter-Adjuncts." This is quite a unique production in British pharmacy. It is illustrated throughout, very few indeed of the articles not being represented by an engraving of the package or bottle, and it also contains a number of sheets of the labels used, the specimens being printed exactly as they appear on the bottles—viz., in gold and colours. It will, of course, be understood that Messrs. E, L. & W. in all cases print the name of the retailer on the labels, and the specimens referred to show that there is sufficient individuality in them to assure the retailer that what he sells will have distinction. The notes throughout the book in regard to the nature

of the preparations and their uses (the latter being supplemented by statements from eminent therapeutists) are very useful. We commend the book to all who wish to keep pace with the modern requirements of the retail drug-trade. Each copy of the firm's ordinary monthly price-list is accompanied by a leaflet entitled "The Counter Adjunct." These contain therapeutical notes of recent materia medica, compiled by Mr. F. Harwood Lescher. These are very well done, being brief and to the point. The fourth edition contains a full index of the paragraphs that have appeared in the monthly list since January, 1891. Those who have preserved the lists will find them an ample dictionary of new remedies.

"HOW TO DISINFECT" is the title of a pamphlet issued by the Sanitas Company, and marked at 3d. It contains a great many useful suggestions with hygienic advice, though, of course, all lead up to the recommendation of one or other of the company's preparations.

As in previous years Spratt's Patent (Limited) have received the order to bench and feed the dogs at the Kennel Club Show, to be held at the Crystal Palace in October next. This company will use a complete new installation, all the plant having Spratt's latest registered improvements.

Bankruptcy Reports.

Re SARAH CORBETT (trading as J. Milligan), 138 Queen's Road, Halifax, Chemist.

THIS debtor's accounts show a deficiency of 42l. 7s. 2d. Official Receiver's observations:—The receiving order was made on the debtor's own petition. She states that she carries on business apart from her husband as a chemist, and that the business belonged to her former husband, who died in 1892. A qualified chemist has managed the business. The returns have fallen off considerably since 1892, and the profits have not been sufficient to meet the expenses. The statement of affairs has been prepared under the directions of the debtor, who has established the value. I do not think the stock and fixtures will realise the amounts set out in the statement of affairs, as the stock will be difficult to dispose of. There are twenty-one unsecured creditors for 76l. 13s. 7d., of which 68l. 16s. 1d. is for trade debts. The secured creditors are:—local rates, 2l. 12s., and the landlord of the house and shop, who had distrained on the stock, fittings, and furniture prior to the receiving order, for 28l., being twelve months' rent due July 1 last. The debtor has kept a ledger and cash-book, the latter of which, however, only contains cash receipts and not cash payments. The debtor states she is unable to make out a deficiency account, but alleges that "the deficiency is more than accounted for by the difference between cost of stock and estimated realisation." The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Bleasdale (Limited), York	16	0	0
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool	10	2	0

Preferential Creditor for Rent.

Sutcliffe, S., Halifax	28	0	0
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Re JOSEPH PITMAN ALCOCK, 73 High Street, Bromsgrove, Chemist.

AT a first meeting of creditors held at the Official Receiver's office, Worcester, on August 8, a statement of affairs was submitted, showing net liabilities of 727l. 19s. 10d. and a deficiency of 240l. 14s. The observations of the Official Receiver stated that the debtor commenced trading at Evesham in 1878, and in 1894 removed to Bromsgrove. He had no means, but commenced with 420l. borrowed from relatives. In 1889 he benefited to the extent of 700l. by a bequest to his wife. His business at Bromsgrove, for which

he paid 350l., was paid for with borrowed money. The failure was attributed to fall in the price of drugs, and to debtor's trading at Evesham as a market-gardener, and dealing in cattle, sheep, and horses, the result of which was a loss of 500l. Most of the furniture was claimed by the debtor's wife. In answer to questions, the debtor denied representing to a Birmingham firm who advanced him some money that he had lent 400l. to his father. He said he had had to send 400l. to his father to pay off the loan with which he started business.

Re TOM LOCKWOOD, Little Smeaton, Wakefield, Drug-dealer and Drysalter.

THIS debtor states that he commenced business as wholesale dealer in drugs and drysalteries, &c., in Wine Lodge Yard, Wakefield, about nineteen months ago, and that his retail trade as a grocer was commenced about two years and three months ago. He was in trade as a greengrocer at Eastmoor in 1886. In 1888 he took a berth as turner and fitter at Messrs. Harrison & Hammond's. In 1890 he moved to Barnsley, and took work at Messrs. Barracrough's. Six months later he returned to Wakefield, and resumed work for Messrs. Harrison & Hammond. In March, 1893, he started in the grocery business, and in January or February, 1894, he commenced the wholesale drugs and drysaltery business. After eight or nine months he removed this part of his business to Hardy Croft, Wakefield, and in February, 1895, he transplanted it again, moving to Jacob's Well Lane, where he carried it on for a few weeks in partnership with a Mr. Wilson. On March 20 he dissolved partnership with Mr. Wilson, and united the wholesale business to the retail business at his premises in Park Lane. In June, 1895, he made another move, taking premises at Little Smeaton, which was his business address at the time of filing. He has kept no books except a ledger of goods sold on credit.

Gazette.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Crowther, Ramsden, Brighouse, late a partner in the firm of William Savory & Co., Brighouse, drysalter, butcher, late drysalter.

ADJUDICATIONS

Corbett, Sarah (trading as J. Milligan), Halifax, chemist.

Goldsbrough, Abraham (trading as A. Goldsborough & Sons), Bradford, herbalist and patent-medicine vendor.

Mould, Charles, Ashton-under-Lyne, late Blackburn, chemist's assistant, formerly chemist and druggist.

Shearer, William, Camberley, mineral-water manufacturer.

Tilsley, James, Berriew, chemist, druggist, and dentist.

ORDERS MADE ON APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE.

White, Jacob John, Barrington, Northumberland, miner, late aerated-water manufacturer—discharge refused, with liberty to apply at the end of two years from date of order, July 12, 1895.

White, James Andrew, Barrington, Northumberland, miner, late aerated-water manufacturer—discharge refused, with liberty to apply at the end of two years from date of order, July 12, 1895.

APPEASING THE DOCTORS.—"In order to save his shaky seat at Leith," says the *Evening News*, "it is recorded that Mr. Munro Ferguson, the Radical Whip, had to go about smoking a short clay pipe in order to appease the doctors." A strange lot the Leith doctors must be, if this were true; but for "doctors" we are compelled to read "dockers."

AFTER MANY DAYS.—Mr. Thomas Ingham, of Rockhampton, Queensland, sent as a present to the Pope, on the occasion of his jubilee two years ago, a silver-mounted cedar cabinet containing two cut glass bottles filled with oil of the scented gum-tree. Nazareno Mazolini, private chaplain and chamberlain of the Pope, has quite recently replied that the gift was most pleasing to the Holy Father, who retained the box for his personal use.

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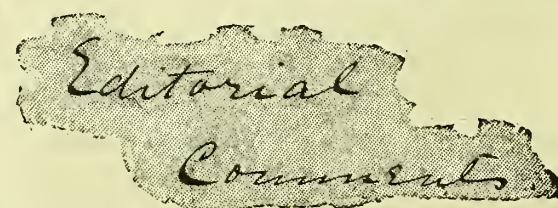
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THE AMENDMENT OF COMPANY LAW.

It is extremely probable that the draft Bill which has been
 suggested by the Departmental Committee of the Board of

Trade for the amendment of the Companies Acts, or something similar to it, will be adopted by the new Government and submitted to Parliament next year. The members constituting the Committee were all experts, and they supplemented their own experience by that of the best legal authorities, Chambers of Commerce, trade-protection societies, committees of Stock Exchanges, and others. The Bill they have drafted, and which is submitted for consideration as the outcome of their deliberations, goes a good way towards fulfilling the general desire as expressed by the persons and corporations most intimately concerned.

We directed attention last week to the satisfactory circumstance that the reasonable complaint which pharmacists have against the Companies Acts as they now stand has received due recognition from this Committee; and, further, that one of the clauses of their draft Bill, though not prepared expressly for the purpose, will, with a very slight verbal alteration to which no one can reasonably object, sufficiently meet our requirements. The Bill proposes that companies may be wound up if it be shown that they have been formed for a fraudulent or illegal purpose. All we ask is that companies shall not be incorporated for the purpose of accomplishing that which would be illegal for their constituent shareholders to do individually. On this line pharmacists can use all their influence with members of Parliament when the measure gets into Committee with the utmost confidence that their claim is one which cannot be opposed by any sound argument.

A vast system such as that of joint-stock enterprise has grown to be can only be interfered with legislatively with the utmost caution. There are, it is stated, in this country over 1,035 millions sterling of paid-up capital invested in joint-stock enterprises. Most of the great undertakings of the nation are conducted by companies incorporated under the Companies Acts. Railways, banks, ships, breweries, have absorbed great sums, and the system, while it provides valuable opportunities for the investment of superfluous capital, gives facilities, on the other hand, for the promotion of undertakings which are of undoubted social benefit. The illegitimate use, or rather abuse, of the legal provision is, after all, only the fringe of the system, and it would be pitiful, if it were necessary to cripple these great enterprises in order to check the devices of a few paltry schemers. The resources of civilisation ought to be capable of better work than that. At the same time it must be remembered that it is no business of the State to prevent investors from entering on rash or hazardous speculations, or to avenge them when their investments fail; while provisions directed against careless or fraudulent directors are likely to miss their aim, and to have their principal effect in frightening away from boards the substantial and trustworthy men whom it is particularly desirable to have in such positions.

A large part of the Committee's report consists of very sound criticisms of suggestions which they find it inexpedient to propose, and some commentators of the report have complained that they have done scarcely anything beyond explaining why they can do nothing.

But this is not accurate. The Committee's draft Bill is very cautiously drawn, but it contains proposals which are far-reaching. There are, for instance, many stringent conditions affecting directors; they are to sign the articles of association, and are to be held strictly to pay for their shares, and they are liable to be made to disgorge any commissions or gifts which they may have received from promoters, vendors, &c., in consideration of transactions which concern the companies they represent. The promoter is especially aimed at. His commission is to be stated on the prospectus,

which is also to give the exact amount payable to the original vendor for the property to be acquired. The statutory meeting is to be held within one month of the filing of the statutory declaration of the new company, and is to be a much more serious and less formal affair than it has come to be. Shareholders dissatisfied with the preliminary proceedings will have power there and then to discuss the formation of the company, and to appoint by resolution, without previous notice, a committee with a view to winding up. For the benefit of creditors of a company it is provided that mortgages of the company's property are not to be valid unless they are registered, and more distinct information is to be filed with the register, while the penalties for non-compliance with this requirement are made much heavier. The duties and rights of auditors of public companies are laid down, and false statements in any document required by the Acts are to be dealt with more severely than has been yet provided for.

"There is no more frequent cause of disaster than allotment upon insufficient capital." This, say the Committee, is the unanimous opinion of experienced persons. To check this, while not laying down a hard-and-fast line, the Committee make an ingenious suggestion. In prospectuses inviting public subscription, a minimum subscription may be named. In such cases the company is not to go to allotment if that amount should not be reached. If no minimum subscription is named, the company is not to go to allotment unless the full amount of the nominal capital is subscribed. As we have recently had occasion to comment on a certain chemists' company which went to allotment on a subscription of 15,000*l.* on a nominal capital of 200,000*l.*, with the absolute certainty of being unable with any such actual capital to carry out the scheme set forth in their prospectus, we think it justifiable to point out that a certain Mr. Frank Crisp is a member of the Committee from which this thoughtful suggestion emanates, and that he is also a member of the firm who are the legal advisers of the company alluded to.

THE B.P.

PHARMACOPŒIA criticism seems to be thoroughly played out. The Pharmacology Section of the British Medical Association had a regular field-day for the discussion of the B.P. revision, and although the meeting was presided over by Dr. Lauder Brunton, and the discussion led off by such an eminent Pharmacopœia critic as Professor Leech, and joined in by Professor Bradbury, of Cambridge, Professor T. R. Fraser, of Edinburgh, Professor Charteris, of Glasgow, Dr. MacAlister, of Cambridge, Dr. Carter of Liverpool, and Dr. Ralph Stockman, the whole thing was virtually a rehash of old topics. The fact that most of those who spoke have spoken on the subject before, and still found ten minutes too short a time to express themselves in, is fair evidence that they were hobby-riding. The only absolutely new thing said during the discussion was by Dr. MacAlister, who, as a member of the General Medical Council and of the Pharmacopœia Committee, was able to inform the meeting that the committee have decided to introduce the metric system of weights and measures alongside the English system. Apart from this posology was the subject which seemed to interest the speakers most, for nearly all spoke about the necessity for fixing maximum and minimum doses and the average daily dose. We may mention that a similar subject came up in the Diseases for Children Section upon a paper by Dr. Kingston Barton, who urged the desirability of inserting in the British Pharmacopœia some guide as to the doses most suitable for children, such as appears in the official Pharmacopœia for Switzerland. He did not think that the dose could be calculated from the body-weight, as he considered

that children require larger, proportional doses than adults, and require them to be given more frequently. The speakers generally agreed with this. We confess to some surprise at the eager manner in which prominent medical practitioners discuss this subject, for there are very few of them who use the Pharmacopœia doses except as a starting-point, because they find from experience what quantities give them the best results, and how to adjust the dose to suit the patient and the disease. But the debaters appeared to give no thought to these considerations, nor to the difficulty of making Pharmacopœia posology meet their aspirations and please all schools of therapeutics. The discussion included the usual remarks regarding enemata, cataplasmata, and "useless matter," such as directions for making chloroform, while a few of the rising young men were present to tell the meeting how much better they could do the thing than the Pharmacopœia Committee. So far as the British Medical Association is concerned the discussion was not a signal success; but it was from the point of view of the Pharmacopœia, for it was an excellent proof that the time for discursive criticism is past, and that everything of importance in criticism has been elicited. No one with a spirit of fair play in him can overlook the fact that the Pharmacopœia Committees are now at work, and are actually progressing. They should now be allowed to do their work undisturbed.

THE STAFF OF LIFE.

"THE Science and Art of Bread-making" does not look like a subject upon which a chemist could produce a volume of some 650 pages, yet that is what Mr. William Jago, F.I.C., F.C.S., has done, and we must say that his book, recently published by Simpkin (see *C. & D.*, June 22, page 880), contains a great deal of information which pharmacists sometimes wish to get at. There are chemists and druggists here and there throughout the country who have at some time been brought rather closely into contact with the difficulties and mysteries of the bakehouse, and no man amongst us has not observed the difference in quality, and, therefore, in chemical composition, of household bread. The fact that the production of home-made bread is on the increase in the English and Welsh provinces is evidence that the chemistry of bread-making is beyond the ken of the professional baker; if it were not so, we should see fewer leaden loaves and cobble-stone crusts than we do. There is excellent bread, nevertheless—a fact which is due in part to the growing intelligence of bakers, appreciation of the chemistry of their art, and of the numerous scientific facts which are involved in the production of a well-fermented dough. Mr. Jago's purpose is to nourish that tendency, so that a large part of his book—*eg.*, the first 200 pages—is devoted to a kind of elementary science, served up in somewhat encyclopædic fashion, and embracing the most rudimentary facts regarding the elements and abstracts of latest investigations on natural ferments. Some of this we have found interesting enough, but it is when we come to the actual components of bread that we feel most interested. Yeast, for example, is not only of trade importance, since the sale of the compressed article is now general in the trade, and on the increase, but the kinds used explain the difference in flavour and texture of bread. It need scarcely be explained that the object of yeast is primarily to saccharify a proportion of the starch, but while this goes on a certain amount of carbonic acid is liberated, which aërates (Mr. Jago's spelling "erate" is unpardonable) the dough, and during baking the escape of this and other gaseous products of fermentation gives the bread a degree

of lightness proportionate to the quality and amount of the yeast used. The bread yeast of England is grown in a mixture of malt and hops, the latter added with the object of keeping down secondary fermentation; sometimes potatoes are added. In Scotland flour barmes are preferred. These were introduced from Paris by a baker near Edinburgh about thirty years ago, and quickly caught on, extended to the north of Ireland, and are used in London by Scotch bakers. The basis of the barm is malt 10 lbs., hops 3 oz., wheaten flour 40 lbs. (one-third American the rest Talavera), salt 2 or 3 oz., sugar 8 or 12 oz., boiling water 18 gallons, or a sufficiency, and old or "virgin" barm 1½ gallon. The malt and hops are mashed with a gallon or two of boiling water, and the infusion with more boiling water is used to make the flour into a batter, to which the barm is added after twenty-four hours, and the whole kept in a cool place. To the preparation of this barm much of the success of bread-making is due, and bad bread is as much the result of bad ferment as bad flour. When it is considered how much improvement has been effected in brewing by careful study of the ferment, and adequate knowledge of the processes, it may be imagined that similar methods, instead of the old rule-of-thumb ways of working, when applied to bread-making will give us a more uniform, palatable, and digestive product than we are now supplied with. The very fact that Vienna bread, one of the most esteemed kinds we have, is made with plain compressed yeast is evidence that the exclusion of secondary ferments is beneficial to the mass. Perhaps it is not generally known that the leaven of leavened bread is simply a piece of dough held over from a previous baking. According to Chicaudard the ferment of this is a bacterium which causes peptonisation of the gluten, and not alcoholic fermentation at all, as is the case with the yeast ferment. The system of leavening is followed in France, and is divided into five or six stages, only the last two of which yield first-class bread, the product of the first leavening being sour in taste and dark in colour. Within recent years there has been much running after patent breads, the peculiarities of which depend more upon the materials than the ferments. For example, the popular Hovis bread is made from a flour containing wheat-germ or embryo subjected to special treatment. In milling wheat various parts of it get into succeeding "breaks," and thus the germ gets into the fourth or fifth. This part is very rich in soluble proteids—about 12 per cent., fat 9 to 12 per cent., and also in phosphates, the rest of the grain having considerably less. The drawback to the germ is that its flour does not keep well, on account of its richness in enzymes; but Mr. R. Smith, of Macclesfield, invented a process of cooking it by superheated steam, whereby its diastasic properties are destroyed, yet the resulting product has a flavour similar to malt. The product is mixed with three times its weight of ordinary flour and a proportion of salt, this mixture constituting Hovis flour. Mr. Jago says that this makes an excellent infant's food, when baked in the dry state until just brown, then 6 oz. of cornflour added to each pound of the baked flour, so as to reduce the proportion of flesh-forming materials. A food of this character will be akin to much of the malted food now popular, and more nutritious than it in respect to proteid and fat constituents; but we question if there is anything more satisfactory than a mixture of steam-cooked flour with 10 per cent. of malt in the form of flour or extract. The last dozen years have seen a remarkable development of tea-shops in London, which circumstance is chiefly due to the fact that a company, familiarly known as the A.B.C., was started to popularise bread made by Dr. Daughlish's aëration process. This process is the subject of a very old patent, and as it

consisted essentially of making the dough rise by forcing carbonic-acid gas into it, the product failed to please the popular palate, and the process fell into disuse until the A.B.C. revived it with improvements. It will be understood from what has been already said that the palatability of bread is the result of the chemical changes which occur in the dough through the influence of yeast. Such changes cannot occur in Daughlish's method, and the improvement consists in retaining the aëration scheme, but making the dough in part with a malt and flour wort which has been allowed to spontaneously reach the lactic fermentation stage; this wort is supposed to soften the gluten; but however that may be, its addition certainly gives flavour to an otherwise tasteless and rawlike bread. Mr. Jago gives a good deal of information regarding the preparation of malt bread, and incidentally of malt extract; but he dismisses gluten bread in a short paragraph, which is regrettable, because if there is any subject which is worth careful working up by a baker's chemist, it is bread for diabetics. A very useful chapter in the book is that on baking-powders, in which Mr. Jago discusses the action of tartrate, phosphate, and alum baking-powders. Here he mentions two specialities of the Manchester Chemical Company, "Cream Powder" and "Citrolene," which are mixtures of ammonium and calcium phosphates with 5 to 10 per cent. of corn starch, 2 parts of either neutralising 1 part of sodium bicarbonate, and yielding a lighter-coloured bread than cream of tartar, the ammonia also being dissipated in baking as NH_3 and CO_2 . For phosphate powders acid potassium phosphate is generally used in the proportion of 14 cz. to 16 oz. of sodium bicarbonate, disodium potassium phosphate remaining in the bread. We do not agree with Mr. Jago that the use of tartaric acid and cream of tartar is objectionable because they contain lead, and because the residue in the bread is a purgative salt. What he says on this score is eminently ridiculous. His statement, proved by experiment, that alum baking-powder retards proteid digestion is of more importance, and he is supported in this by some eminent authorities. There is much in his book that will interest chemists, the analytical methods alone sufficing to give it a place in the chemist's library; but it is essentially a book for bakers, and the thoroughness with which the author deals with all the mechanical details of the bakehouse and the operations conducted therein is not the least important element of what we consider an admirable monograph.

MAGISTRATES AND PHARMACY LAW.

The Ormskirk Magistrates and their Clerk have acquired some curious notions of pharmacy law if they are correctly reported in the *Ormskirk Advertiser* of August 18. A man was before them on a charge of attempted suicide. He had been taking some liquid ammonia, and after a short lecture from the Bench he promised not to do it again, and was discharged. The Chairman (Mr. R. Tomlinson) then asked if the chemist who sold the ammonia was in court, and Mr. Baxendale's assistant went into the box. The Chairman said it seemed to the Bench a curious thing that he should have served the man with such strong stuff. It was a pure accident that the man fell into such good hands, and it should be a caution to him in the future. The Clerk (Mr. Hill) asked him if he knew he had rendered himself liable to a fine of 50*l*. The assistant said they had no power to refuse to sell liquid ammonia. The Chairman: I should advise you to be more careful. Later on Mr. Baxendale attended the court and made a statement to the effect that ammonia was not a scheduled poison, but that it could be sold by anybody in any quantity; that it was in constant use for household purposes, washing blankets, cleaning floors,

clothing, &c.; also that the man was sober at the time, and the fullest inquiry was made. It is difficult, we are aware, to argue with the men on the Bench, but chemists should never miss the chance of refuting their assumptions when they lay down pharmacy law without having first learnt it. Their pompous admonitions based on ignorance are likely to do a pharmacist serious injury, and he is quite justified in politely insisting on his version being heard. Unfortunately, a good many chemists are not sufficiently acquainted with pharmacy law themselves to enter on a discussion.

WE KNEW IT BEFORE,

But we cannot understand why it should be brought up once again. Tuesday morning's papers had short paragraphs about it, and the enterprising evening ha'porths had more. The facts are these. A Silvertown woman has for some time complained of violent spasms, sometimes in one part, sometimes in another. There was a tendency to diarrhoea and sickness. She consulted three doctors, but all to no purpose. Then she went to a hospital, with no better result. At last she was recommended to go to Dr. Eldridge Spratt, of 11 Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W., who has a dispensary at Silvertown. To Dr. Spratt the woman went, and as soon as he saw her he said to himself, "By Jove, it's a worm!" For this ailment Dr. Spratt has a peculiar treatment of his own, which he proceeded to apply. It consists of quinine with large doses of dilute nitric acid. For three days after taking this the woman continued to suffer even more acutely than before, but on the fourth day she had an hour's retching, and at the end of the attack she felt something rise in her throat. Putting her thumb and finger as far down as she could she pulled off the head of a newt, and by a similar process the body and tail followed a few moments later—8 inches in all! Dr. Spratt swears to the accuracy of the report. In his experience the case is absolutely unique. He has no doubt that the animal was alive up to the moment its head was pulled off. The acid and the quinine irritated the animal, causing it to jump about and tickle the bronchial tubes [? how—ED]. This produced the vomiting, and the vomiting produced the newt. So Dr. Spratt says, and, as Shakespeare says, "Newts and blind-worms do no wrong," we take that to be the reason the poor woman was able to stand the wobbling and tickling of the writhing reptile within her. Dr. Spratt is a Licentiate of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, of forty-two years' standing, and is the "author of several works on 'Gout at the Heart,' and 'Hygro,' 'Neuralgia,' &c.'" (we quote from a medical directory). He should now add "Newt in the Stomach."

TAXING TRAVELLERS IN NEW ZEALAND.

A sweet thing in income-tax collection comes from New Zealand. That colony has recently adopted this gentle method of raising revenue, and seems inclined to carry it out thoroughly—at least, as far as "foreign traders" (who, of course, include English houses) are concerned. One of the provisions of their income-tax law imposes on all agents for foreign houses the duty of making returns "in such forms, at such times, and for such purposes as the Commissioner may require," showing the full invoice-price of all goods sold in the colony, and the profit accruing to their principals. Income-tax is to be paid on that profit, and, if not paid, the Commissioner has power to detain imported goods. Such a *reductio ad absurdum* of a tax, which at the best is an unpopular one, has not, we should think, occurred to any previous Finance Minister in any country. The trumpery amount it can yield will not be enough to put a single coat of paint on the Parliament House. It is not, be it understood, an import-tax; if it were, it might at least yield a respectable sum. But this tax is only assessable on

goods imported for which direct orders have been obtained in the colony by agents working there. The scheme is probably rather a remnant of protectionist policy than a development of financial genius, though its authors probably think it is the latter.

THE DUCHESS'S COSMETIC.

There is likely to be a strong demand for araroba at pharmacies with a fashionable *clientèle*. Mrs. Crawford, the Paris correspondent of *Truth*, tells a curious story in the current issue of that journal *à propos* of "beauty-culture." She was lunching not long ago, she states, with a lady, whom she describes as "a member of the British peerage," and among the company was a certain "Duchess and Marshaless, who had filled a station higher than belongs to either title." It is not difficult to guess the personage alluded to. The conversation turned on beauty-culture, and the hostess, the member of the British peerage, "adroitly called attention to the child-like skin and complexion of the Duchess, notwithstanding the seventy-two years to which her Grace owned." Extremes meet. We are aware that in very low circles it is not uncommon for comments to be made on personal peculiarities, and we gather from this letter that a similar code of manners prevails when the French and British aristocracy meet. Anyway, Mrs. Crawford states that the Duchess had a skin with a satin texture, and a complexion in which roses and lilies were blended. We do not clearly understand whether the statement was made at the lunch, or whether it was ascertained afterwards, that

the persistent beauty of the Duchess was mainly due to a wash she had used for more than forty years, and which she alone knew how to compound. She had bought the recipe from an old German botanist, who in the forests of Brazil had discovered the effects of certain plants on the complexion. Bottles of the wash had found their way to the Court of Denmark when the Empress of Russia and other illustrious ladies were staying there, and would have won through their patronage a world-wide fame had the Duchess consented to bring it into the market. She had been urged to trade on her skin-renovating fluid, but could never make up her mind to do so, until widowhood and pecuniary losses made her desirous of setting up anonymously in business.

The principal ingredient of the Duchess's wash, the correspondent subsequently informs us, is araroba, the botanical name of which is given as "Angelina araroba," a not unnatural modification of the correct name, "Andira araroba."

It should be used with great discretion, and compounded with an emollient. Dr. Castellani declares that it is an "adjuvant" of unquestionable potency, used as a pomade. It begins by inflaming the skin, and then gives it the softness of the rose petal. He found it a sovereign remedy in the treatment of erysipelas and herpes. His report, addressed to the Academy of Medicine, thus ends, "this medicament is more potent in curing all sorts of skin-affections than arsenical treatment, and is also a beautifier of the complexion."

It looks as if somebody has got an axe to grind. We may emphasise the recommendation that araroba as a skin-beautifier should be used with discretion. If used externally, as is evidently intended, it had better be applied to all parts of the exposed skin, for it leaves a very marked yellow to brown stain, which would not add to the beauty of duchesses and others if it occurred in patches only, and which is very difficult to remove.

AMERICAN ALCOHOL DRAWBACK.—The retailers and wholesalers of the United States are working the alcohol rebate question for all they are worth, and it is fully expected that the druggists will beat the Government. A bureau of retailers has been started in Philadelphia to manage the claims, and the Government officials have set aside a room for the filing of the alcohol claims.

Foreign and Colonial News.

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR ARGON.—The Senate of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, have voted the Hodgkins prize of \$10,000 in equal proportions to Lord Rayleigh and Professor Ramsay, in recognition of their discovery of argon.

A NEW CYANIDE-FACTORY has been started in Selm, Lüdinghausen, Germany. It has been promoted by a Hamburg syndicate, with a capital of 2,000,000 marks. Potassium cyanide, ferrocyanides, and sulphocyanides will be the principal products.

ITALIAN PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.—Mr. Pietro Farini, of the Farmacia Sempreviva, Ferrara, has issued a circular to Italian pharmacists, proposing that a national pharmaceutical congress should be held in Ferrara, the objects being the reunion of pharmacists, the discussion of scientific topics and of the various laws and regulations which affect the practice of pharmacy in Italy.

INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL EXHIBITIONS.—It is proposed to hold an international pharmaceutical exhibition at Prague next year. The matter was discussed at the last meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society there, and it was generally agreed that the thing might be made a success. It will be open for four months. Mr. Rüdiger and Dr. Fragner have been appointed secretaries of it. English, French, and Russian, as well as German firms, have promised to participate in it.—A world's pharmaceutical exhibition is to be opened in Chicago shortly. The Chicago and Western people generally are sure that it will be a success, but the Eastern papers are belittling it. We conclude, therefore, that it is of inter-State rather than international interest.—A pharmaceutical exhibition, promoted by the Bavarian Pharmaceutical Society, and to be held at Würzburg, promises to be a success. Dieterich, Knoll, Schimmel, and other prominent firms are participating.

AN INTERESTING PARAGRAPH.—The *Pharmaceutical Era* quotes from the U.S. Treasury department returns upon immigration into the country during the year ending June 30, 1894. The pharmaceutical figures are interesting. During the period the arrivals were 31 male druggists between 15 and 40, and one over 40 years of age. During the same period 85 chemists swelled the U.S. population. The distinction between druggists and chemists we do not know, but the *Era* says the druggists are not pharmacists. A further study of the statistics shows where the men came from, viz.:—Austria-Hungary, 2 druggists, 1 chemist; Belgium, 2 chemists; Denmark, 1 druggist; France, 4 chemists, 1 druggist; Germany, 18 chemists, 12 druggists; Greece, 1 chemist; Italy, 4 chemists, 4 druggists; Netherlands, 3 chemists; Russia, 1 chemist, 5 druggists; Sweden, 2 chemists, 1 druggist; England, 18 chemists, 3 druggists; Scotland, 7 chemists, 1 druggist; Ireland, 18 chemists, 2 druggists; Australia, 3 chemists; Hawaiian Islands, 3 chemists.

HOMŒOPATHIC EXHIBITION.—In connection with the International Homœopathic Congress held at Hamburg there was an interesting exhibition of Hahnemann relics, and of modern homœopathic medicines. Thus there was a reproduction of the first pharmacy which was fitted up in accordance with Hahnemann's principles, and this proved very interesting when contrasted with the splendid exhibits of such firms as Dr. Wilmar Schwabe and Täschner & Co., of Leipzig, or the Société homœopathique de France, of Paris. The first-named firm showed a number of Hahnemann's letters, some tiny cylinders containing globules, and small phials fitted with ivory stoppers, these having actually been used by Hahnemann. Dr. A. L. Simon, who is homœopathic physician to Queen Isabella of Spain, also exhibited. Several gold and silver medals were awarded—viz., gold to Dr. Werner, of Wister; Dr. Wilmar Schwabe, Täschner & Co., and Marggraf, of Leipzig; and to the Société homœopathique de France, Paris; silver to the Dutch Society for the Promotion of Homœopathy; Société de homœopathie de Belgique, Brussels; Dr. Levinsohn, Berlin; and C. Münnighaus, Leningue.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Coleman & Phillips (Thomas Henry Coleman trading as), Chapel Street, Birmingham, and The Limes, Maney, Sutton Coldfield, wholesale druggist and aerated-water manufacturer. Trustee, Walter E. Fowkes, 83 Colmore Row, Birmingham, accountant. Dated August 1: filed August 8. Unsecured liabilities, 2,139*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* Estimated net assets, 1,357*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Ayrton & Saunders, Liverpool	14	0	0
Berry, W., Manchester	14	0	0
Birmingham Vinegar Brewery, Ashted	14	0	0
Bird & Sons, Birmingham	21	0	0
Bonner & Son, Denby Pottery	14	0	0
Bramley, C. G., Derby	10	0	0
Bryant & May, (Limited), London	23	0	0
Cadbury Brothers, Birmingham	28	0	0
Dobson, J. W., Barnsley	22	0	0
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool	10	0	0
Fox, F. F., & Co., Bristol	44	0	0
Fry & Sons, Bristol	15	0	0
Hartley, W. P., Aintree	10	0	0
Harrison, —, Birmingham	15	0	0
Hay & Co. (Limited), Hull	12	0	0
Heaton, Smith & Co., Bristol	131	0	0
Hedley, Gamble & Crossfield, Liverpool	14	0	0
Hilton, J., Birmingham	115	0	0
Horton's Estate (Limited), London	13	0	0
Holloway, C. T. & W., Birmingham	25	0	0
Hooper, G., & Co., London	15	0	0
Hudson, R. S., Liverpool	22	0	0
Icke & Co., Birmingham	150	0	0
Judd & Co., Handsworth	60	0	0
Keen, Robinson & Co., London	15	0	0
Knight, M., London	15	0	0
Lane & Clutterbuck, London	50	0	0
Lynch & Co., London	18	0	0
Mackie & Gladstone (Limited), Dale End	14	0	0
McCorquodale & Co. (Limited), London	10	0	0
Midland Vinegar Company, Aston Cross	10	0	0
Moreland, S., jun., & Sons, Gloucester	12	0	0
Morrell, H., & Co., London	10	0	0
Patent Borax Company, Birmingham	20	0	0
Pattison, J. J., & Co., Birmingham	45	0	0
Phillips, T., Portsea	50	0	0
Pink, E. & F., London	13	0	0
Parnell, Webb & Co., Bristol	59	0	0
Reckitt & Sons, Hull	45	0	0
Rowley, J. D., Birmingham	70	0	0
Rylands, Dan (Limited), Barnsley	23	0	0
Smith, H., Birmingham	12	0	0
Sturge, J. & E., Birmingham	14	0	0
White & Pike (Limited), Birmingham	12	0	0
Wilton, G., Sons & Co., Doncaster	14	0	0
Worcestershire Preserving Company, Evesham	21	0	0
Bankers' Claims	385	0	0

Hart, Joshua Hamilton, Harbottle, doctor of medicine. Trustee, William A. Smith, Commercial Chambers, King Street, South Shields, accountant. Dated August 5; filed August 12. Liabilities unsecured, 458*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*; estimated net assets, 95*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Brady & Martin, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	65	0	0
Charlton, Annie, Harbottle	12	0	0
Commar, John, Harbottle	14	0	0
Cullen & Son, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	10	0	0
Dale, Arthur, Birmingham	20	0	0
Dixon Brothers, Rothbury	23	0	0
Gullachsen, L., Newcastle-upon-Tyne	19	0	0
Harriman, W., & Co., Newcastle-upon-Tyne	16	0	0
King & Gillespie, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	13	0	0
Madelon & Co., Newcastle-upon-Tyne	33	0	0
Purvis & Son, Alnwick	12	0	0
Robinson, Geo., Rothbury	38	0	0
Roper, T. H., Rothbury	54	0	0
Thompson, Wm., Alnwick	14	0	0
Thompson & Wright, Alnwick	18	0	0

Marriages.

ASPREY—LYNCH.—On Thursday, August 8, at St. John's Church, Upper Norwood, by the Rev. W. F. La Trobe Bateman, Joseph William Asprey, of 6 Farnival's Inn, E.C., eldest son of Joseph Cox Asprey, to Alice Mary, eldest daughter of T. F. Lynch, of Ballyowen, South Norwood Park, and of Aldersgate Street, E.C.

ELLIOT—DAVIDSON.—At Lausanne, on August 7, by H.B.M. Vice-Consul, and afterwards at Christ's Church, by the Rev. W. M. Clarke, Gilbert J. Elliot, principal of the Khedival Training College, Cairo, to Bessie Clarke, eldest daughter of James N. Davidson, pharmaceutical chemist, Dundee.

GIBB—JOHNSON.—On August 13, at St. Thomas's Church, Winchester, by the Rev. A. B. Sole, assisted by the Rev. C. W. Johnson, brother of the bride, Councillor W. D. Gibb, chemist and druggist, of Winchester, to Amelia Bible, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Johnson, of 17 St. Peter Street, Winchester.

JACKSON—NELSON.—On July 31, at Kirkgate Wesleyan Chapel, by the Rev. Robert Hopewell, Herbert Richardson Jackson, pharmaceutical chemist, elder son of Mr. John Jackson, of the firm of Harrison, Parkinson & Co., chemists, to Clara, youngest daughter of Mr. Thomas Nelson, Springfield Place, Bradford.

MATHER—COATES.—On August 7, at St. Peter's Church, Birkdale, Southport, by the Rev. W. B. Hutton, B.A., John Henry, second son of James Mather, chemist, Birkdale, and Freehold, Bolton, to Phyllis Amy, fifth daughter of the late Henry Coates, late of Cliff Edge, Kersal, Manchester, and of Sawley Ripon, Yorkshire.

PETTY—GRIFFITHS.—At the Parish Church, Neath, by the Rev. David Davies, the Rev. Harry Petty, of Newport, Isle of Wight, to Georgina Griffiths, sister of Mr. J. Egbert Griffiths, managing director of Lewis & Burrows (Limited).

WALLACE—BILLINGS.—On August 8, at Saint Luke's, Chelsea, by the Rev. E. Bird, William John Wallace, chemist and druggist, Senglea, Plympton, to Daisy, daughter of Mr. John Billings, of Chelsea.

Deaths.

BIBBINGS.—On August 8, at 54 Queen Street, Newton Abbot, Harriett Carlotta, the beloved wife of J. H. Bibbings, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 41.

MUSPRATT.—The death took place on Saturday morning, in her seventy-sixth year, and after a prolonged illness, of Mrs. Muspratt, Cornist Hall, Flint. The deceased was the widow of the late Richard Muspratt, one of the founders of the Flint chemical industry, and was well known and universally respected for her unbounded charity and generosity.

SMITH.—Mr. George Emanuel Smith, of Wakefield, whose death on August 1, in his 87th year, we announced last week, had retired from his business as chemist and druggist in Little Westgate about nine months. Mr. Smith was a native of Ackworth; he commenced business when 24 years of age in Wakefield, and carried on a successful trade for sixty years. He was married twice, and leaves a widow, but no family. He was elected on the first Town Council of the borough, and was afterwards made an alderman. In 1887 he built and endowed a row of nine pretty almshouses.

FOREIGN CHEMISTS, LIMITED (WILCOX & Co.).—At a meeting of members of this company, held on August 7, the audited balance-sheet for the six months ending June 30 last was submitted, showing total sales 26,962*l.* 14*s.*, and a net profit of 2,666*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*, and it was resolved that a dividend at the rate of 10*l.* per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, be forthwith paid.

Recent Patents.

Capsule-fillings.

681. 1894. Warrick, F. W., 18 Old Swan Lane, London. Ferrous carbonate or ferrous phosphate, when used for capsule-fillings, is mixed with glucose to prevent oxidation.

Chest and Lung Protectors, Knee-pads, &c.

538. 1894. Shuter, H., 5 Chatham Street, Piccadilly, Manchester.

These articles are provided with perforations so as to allow of free ventilation and perspiration. The perforations are either stitched round or fitted with eyelets.

Cleansing composition.

1,963. 1894. Scott, A. R., Carntyne Chemical-works, Parkhead, Glasgow.

A cleansing-composition or soap-powder, made by saponifying cocoa-nut or palm-nut oil with caustic soda. After heating to near the boiling-point, the mixture is cooled, pulverised, and mixed with sulphate of ammonia in sufficient quantity to convert the sodium carbonate into sodium sulphate.

Iron Salts.

1,415. 1894. Levinstein, I., Minshall Street, Manchester. Heating and mixing oxide of iron, preferably ferric oxides, with a suitable bisulphate or bisulphates, as sodium bisulphate, in about equal proportions, to obtain a new compound containing a persalt of iron suitable, after cooling, for use in the precipitation of sewage, purifying various waste liquors, and in colouring and dyeing operations.

Labels, Tablets, &c.

468. 1894. Crichton, W., and Menzies, P., both of 770 Garscube Road, Glasgow.

Labels, window-tickets, advertising cards or tablets, made from celluloid as follows:—The desired words, &c., are written or printed on the celluloid in wax, fat, or other composition that resists the action of alcohol or like spirit. A dye or stain is dissolved in spirit, and the celluloid is immersed in the dye, which dyes the parts not written or printed on.

Medicinal Preparation.

1,241. 1894. Simmons, W. H., 20 Hanover Street, Middlesex.

A preparation to be used as an embrocation in the treatment of sprains, rheumatism, &c.; also as an inhalation for catarrh, &c. It is composed of whisked new-laid eggs, olive oil, "oleum" terebinthe, malt vinegar, tincture opii, spirit of hartshorn, lin. saponis, oleum origani, and spirit of camphor.

Medicines.

24,193. 1893. Jeffcock, J. P., 3 Porchester Place, London. A specific for the relief and cure of indigestion. It consists of two powders, one containing carbonate of bismuth, which when mixed together in the presence of water produce effervescence. One powder is composed preferably of bicarbonate of soda, carbonate of bismuth, and powdered sugar, and the other of citric acid.

24,588. 1893. Knowles, M., 71 Upper Brodrick Street, South Shields, Durham.

A medicinal compound, for use in cases of bronchitis, asthma, consumption, and like affections, is composed of neatsfoot oil (1 gill), powdered barley sugar ($\frac{1}{2}$ lb.), West Indian sugar ($\frac{1}{2}$ lb.), and vinegar ($\frac{1}{2}$ gill). For neatsfoot oil, olive or like oil may be substituted.

2,073. 1894. Shoppee, G. A., 7 Furnival's Inn, and Durham, H., 16 Hanover Buildings, Thomas Street, Grosvenor Square, London.

The medicine is intended for the cure of piles and constipation, and is composed of powdered senna, ground caraway seeds, and molasses.

Ointment.

1,803. 1894. Mason, G., 10 Warwick Avenue, Burton Road, Didsbury, near Manchester.

A healing ointment for skin-diseases, eruptions, or sores. Is a mixture of refined Lucca oil, beeswax, white wax, and lard heated to boiling, and, on cooling, a mixture of red oxide of mercury, white precipitate, and white lead is stirred in.

Pills.

1,639. 1894. Ingram, G. E. S., 62 Chantler Road, Custom House, Victoria Docks, Essex; Jones, J. R., 76 Old Gravel Lane, Wapping, and Elven, L. M., 56 Leatherdale Street, Globe Road, Mile End, both in Middlesex.

Liver-pills are made up of podophylli resina, ext. coloc. co., and ext. hyoscyami, with or without caraway.

Sodium Salts.

1,442. 1894. Johnson, G. S., 11 Savile Row, London.

Relates to the production of a new double salt of sodium having the formula $2\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_3 \cdot \text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot 21\text{H}_2\text{O}$. It may be prepared by mixing the sulphite and carbonate and water in proper molecular proportions, evaporating and crystallising; or by passing sulphur dioxide into a solution of sodium carbonate and crystallising out.

New Remedies.

SUBSCRIBERS should add reference notes about the following to the "Dictionary of New Remedies" in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

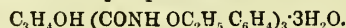
Alumino-potassium Salicylate—An antiseptic made by mixing solutions of potassium acetate and aluminium salicylate in synthetic proportions.

Ammonium Persulphate ($\text{NH}_4)_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$, is recommended as an antiseptic for preserving food. It occurs in small colourless crystals, soluble in water. The solution evolves active oxygen when heated. It can be used in place of permanganate.

Anæsthyll—A local anæsthetic consisting of ethyl chloride 5 parts, and methyl chloride 1 part, by weight.

Bismuth Pyrogallate—A yellow powder containing about 60 per cent of metallic bismuth, sold also under the name of *Helcosol*, but the preparations differ in constitution. The former is $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{OH} \cdot \text{O} \cdot \text{BiOH}$, while *helcosol* is $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{OH})_2 \cdot \text{O} \cdot \text{Bi}(\text{OH})_2$, and is greenish yellow in colour ($\text{Bi} = 56.6$ per cent.). Both are iodoform substitutes. The former is made by Merck, the latter by Negrescu.

Citrophen is a new antipyretic and antineuralgic discovered by Dr. Israel Roos, of Frankfort. It is a combination of citric acid and paraphenetidin—



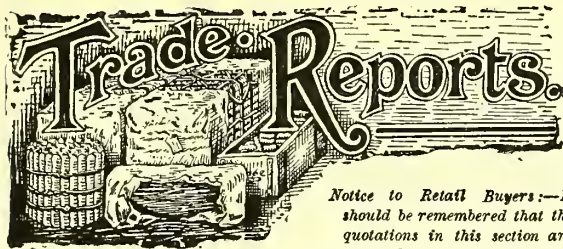
It is a white acidulous powder soluble in about 40 parts of cold water, thus being much more soluble than phenacetin and lactophenin, to which it is allied in action. In neuralgia it has been given in doses of 8 gr., but as much as 90 gr. may be given in the course of an hour. Citrophen is made by Meister, Lucius & Bülning.

Creosote-calcium Hydrochlorophosphate is a white, syrupy mass, consisting of a mixture of creosote carbonate and dry calcium hydrochlorophosphate. It is recommended as a cure for phthisis and scrofula. Dose, 5 to 10 gr.

Steresol—An antiseptic, introduced by Professor Berlioz, for use in diphtheria and in certain skin-diseases. Dr. Blanc declares it to consist of equal parts of tolu-balsam and benzoin, dissolved in carbolated alcohol.

Vasogen is a new ointment-basis, which has been introduced in Germany. It is said to be an oxygenated vaseline (vaseline with free oxygen), but another statement is that it contains about 25 per cent. of olein, saponified with anhydrous ammonia and mixed with vaseline, and brought to a suitable consistency with vaseline oil.

"THAT'S enough to try anybody's patients," as the doctor exclaimed when he found his bottles all mixed and without labels.



Notice to Retail Buyers:—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large

quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable even for manufacturing purposes.

It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., August 15.

WITH the exception of a few articles in the drug and allied chemical trades, which showed some life, the markets this week opened dull and languid. Transactions have been, on the whole, of a limited character, and a disinclination to embark to any extent on any single article has been the feature of the day. Camphor (crude) is firmer, quicksilver stationary, bismuth metal cheaper, and so are the salts; aniseed and cassia oils firm to an advance, shellac better, citronella oil scarce, quinine in better demand. The position of caffeine is unaltered, and there is no quotable change. There is a plethora of money, and loans are readily granted at low rates; but the approaching harvest-time is hardening lenders, and a better tone is already discernible. Discount is unaltered at 2 per cent. Since our last report bar silver has touched 30½d. (yesterday), and to day receded to 30¾d.

Smyrna Opium Telegram.

Our Smyrna correspondent telegraphs on August 14 that the opium-market at that place remains very firm, notwithstanding the evidence of a large supply. The lowest price at which new current can be obtained is 7s. 2d., and sellers are not eager to dispose of their holdings at that price. There are no supplies of old opium offering.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Our correspondent writing on August 14 says that *Canary seed* on the spot has been steady during the week at 38s. to 40s per qr., but sales of considerable quantities have been made to arrive at a shade under this. *Kola nuts* have not been much in evidence, and late rates could be realised for good sound. *Sierra Leone Chillies*, are steady at 26s. to 27s. per cwt. In *Gums*, Soudan sorts are firmly held, the stock being limited, but there is only a quiet demand experienced, and no business of moment has occurred. Other descriptions of *Arabic* are likewise rather neglected, no change in position having taken place. *Castor Oil* has experienced a strong upward movement during the week, and notwithstanding arrivals the price of good seconds *Calcutta* is now 2½d. to 2¾d. with every prospect of prices being maintained. *Madras* good seconds are held for 2d. lb. and First pressure French 2½d. *Chilian Anise*, for a small parcel 25s. cwt. has been paid—quantity might be secured at 22s. 6d. cwt. Of split *Bombay Turmeric*, part of a large parcel has changed hands at 7s. 6d. cwt. *Syrian Asphaltum* of prime quality has realised 28s. cwt. *Honey*—for some prime new *Californian* at auction there were no bids; holders' ideas were 40s. cwt. *Chilian honey* is firm at late rates. *Beeswax* continues to arrive, and values are tending in buyer's favour.

Liverpool Chemical and Oil Market.

Our correspondent writes, on August 14:—The tone of our market is like the weather, every movement of the mercury of the barometer being reproduced here, and

although prices are not much altered, those of caustic soda and sulphur continue firm. *Sal ammoniac* is in fair demand at last week's prices. *Soda*: Caustic scarce and very firm at any price from 8l 15s. to 9l 10s. per ton; hyposulphite scarcer for this time of year owing to the photographic demand, the price asked being from 7l 5s. to 7l 15s. per ton; sulphate quiet at 2l 10s. per ton; nitrate quiet at 8s. 3d. per cwt. *Potash*: Prussiate remains quiet at late rates. Chlorate is in limited request at last week's quotations. Bichromate steady at 4½d. per lb.; nitrate quiet at 23s. per cwt. *Bleaching-powder* firm at 6l 12s. 6d. per cwt. *Copperas* 39s. per ton. *Cream of tartar* steady at 74s. per cwt. *Palm oil*: The market is firm with little offering, last week's prices being realised. *Olive oil*: There is a fair business passing at fully late rates, especially in Candia. *Linseed oil* firm at 23s. per cwt. *Cotton-seed oil*: The market is steady at late rates. *Petroleum*: The market is steady, with Russian at 5½d., and American at 6d. and 8d. per gallon.

The Case of the "Adelphi Couppa."

The Government official organ of Smyrna, July 31, vigorously contradicts the report that Telloglou, the man charged with having shipped the fraudulent opium in the "Adelphi Couppa," as reported in our issue of June 15 and July 20, has been liberated. The *Orient* states that the judicial authorities of the district are occupying themselves seriously with the affair, and that the prosecution will be commenced in a few days. Our correspondent in Smyrna states, on the other hand, that the arrest is merely nominal, that Mr. Telloglou goes home every night to sleep, and has been seen walking on the quays with his wife. According to his statement the authorities are only keeping up the appearance of severity until the affair has blown over.

Trade Improving.

No more interesting publication has appeared this month than the official returns issued by the Board of Trade, giving statistics of the import and export trade of the United Kingdom for the month of July. These give the most striking evidence we have yet had of the substantial improvement in the trade of the country. The indications of improvement hitherto have been fitful, and, at the best, only hopeful. The progress in July was substantial and general. The value of the goods imported was more than 10 per cent. in excess of that recorded in July, 1894, and was spread over all classes of goods, except foodstuffs, tobacco, and oils. The improvement in the export trade extended to every class of merchandise without exception, and amounted in the aggregate to over 11 per cent. The total imports in July, 1894, were valued at 31,835,553l.; in July, 1895, at 35,128,142l. The total value of the exports in July, 1894, was 18,398,536l.; in July, 1895, 20,559,486l. Drugs and chemicals shared fully in this revival, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Imports	July, 1894	July, 1895
Chemicals, manufactures and products (other than alkali)	£ 104,411	£ 121,020
Drugs unenumerated	48,579	66,184
Exports	July, 1894	July, 1895
Alkali cwt.	444,000	501,591
Value £	121,393	120,881
Bleaching-materials cwt.	99,750	127,351
Value £	38,686	42,621
Medicines, comprising drugs and medicinal preparations	£69,922	£84,678

It should be borne in mind that there was one more working day in July, 1895, than in July, 1894, but that at the most could only account for an increase of about 3 per cent. Prices, too, are at a generally lower level than a year ago, so that the actual improvement is greater than appears from the figures.

ACID (CITRIC).—No change at 1s. 1½d. per lb.

ACID (OXALIC), 3½d. per lb.

ACID (TARTARIC).—English, $11\frac{1}{2}d.$; foreign, $11d.$ to $11\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb.

BALSAM PERU is offering from the Continent at $8s. 3d.$ per lb. f.o.b. On this market good genuine is quoted $8s. 6d.$, but with an order in hand can be shaded.

BISMUTH SALTS.—The English makers have further reduced their prices in sympathy with the price of the metal, and the following are among the quotations for 1 cwt. quantities—Bismuth subnitrate, $3s. 9d.$; subcarbonate, $4s. 1\frac{1}{2}d.$ Cosmetic (*oxychloride*), $4s. 1d.$; oxide, $5s. 9d.$; ammonio-citrate solution, $6d.$ per lb. Outside producers of bismuth have once again decided the inner ring of the combination of the metal. The reductions above noted followed this change.

CAMPHOR is still on the boom, and the syndicate refuse to treat as the bulk of the c.i.f. transactions are becoming due and in some quarters prohibitive prices are quoted in view of squeezing bears. Already there are rumours in the air of possible difficulties. Prices notwithstanding are somewhat irregular. Quotations to-day are $185s.$ c.i.f. July-August for Japan and $175s.$ for China. Spot value Japan, $180s.$ per cwt.

CLOVES in slack demand, about 200 bales sold at auction, rather off to fair at $2\frac{3}{8}d.$, fair bright sellers, $2\frac{5}{8}d.$. The syndicate are said to have cleared out. Looking at present values some operators must have made very heavy sacrifices.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—First white crystals $71s.$ to $72s.$ per cwt.; powder, $73s.$ per cwt.; crystal, f.o.b. Bordeaux, $68s. 6d.$ per cwt.

GUM ARABIC.—Although the market privately is generally firm, nearly the whole of the supplies offered at auction were bought in, and things generally were depressed, except in Australian gums, which met a steady demand and chiefly sold at $2s.$ decline. Some Cape of fine quality brought full rates. Of 1,462 packages *Bombay* 100 sold—*Ghatti*, selected, $43s.$; fair, $26s. 6d.$ to $27s.$; *Oomra*, glassy selected pale, $46s.$ to $47s.$; fair, $31s.$; ordinary brown, $28s.$; brown *Amrad* fair, $28s. 6d.$ Of 81 packages *Madras* 33 sold—good pale and brown drop, $30s.$; hlocky pickings, $26s. 6d.$ Of 242 bags *Australian* 110 sold—middling to fair glassy red, $25s.$ to $26s.$; good hold reddish, $29s.$; good to fine palish frosted, $28s.$ to $31s.$ Twenty-five bags very dusty *Cape* sold—amber, $40s.$; fine soft palish, $40s. 6d.$ to $42s. 6d.$; one lot fine white, $56s.$ Of 22 bales *Zanzibar* 5 sold—siftings and pickings, $15s.$ to $16s.$ Fifteen packages *Ghezirah*, 241 Turkey, 5 White Mogadore, 21 brown Barbary, and 2,196 packages Persian were taken out.

GUM OLIVANUM.—Flat. Of 660 cases only 100 sold, and that cheaply—ordinary ungarbled drop, $18s.$ to $19s.$

GUM TRAGACANTH.—Values are well maintained for good and fine qualities: I. and II., $12d.$ to $13d. 15s.$; III., $9d.$ to $10d.$

IPECACUANHA.—There are still buyers of *Rio* in the market, at $5s. 3d.$ to $5s. 5d.$ fair ordinary to fair, but much cannot be picked up, holders keeping aloof in anticipation of a further increase in value. Arrivals up to date figure at 495 as against 848 packages, and present stocks 667 in comparison with 868 the same period last year. There are no first hand parcels of *Cartagena* available, and only a small quantity remains unsold in second-hand bonds, for which $4s. 6d.$ per lb. is asked, but less might be taken. To-day a small parcel of this kind of root has arrived.

KAMALA is getting scarce, and fine quality is wanting. Fair ordinary, $10d.$ per lb.

OIL (CAJUPUT).—For good green $2s. 8d.$ per bottle is asked.

OIL (CASTOR).—East Indian firsts quoted at $2\frac{3}{8}d.$, and seconds selling at $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. French second pressings offering at $16l. 10s.$ per ton, f.o.b. Marseilles.

OIL (CHAULMOOGRA).—Stocks small. Good quality shortly coming forward, to be obtainable at $2s. 6d.$ for wholesale quantities.

OIL (CITRONELLA) is scarce on the spot, and to arrive near at hand, spot conditions, is offering in limited quantities at $1s. 4d.$ to $1s. 5d.$ per lb.

OIL (COD-LIVER).—Market quiet. Fine genuine Lafoten non-congealing oil, $175s.$ per harrel. Newfoundland, $5s.$ per gallon.

OIL (LEMONGRASS).—Obtainable at $1\frac{5}{8}d.$, and native in bottles at $2\frac{3}{4}d.$ per oz.

OIL (PEPPERMINT).—F. G. Hotchkiss, little doing at $10s. 1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $10s. 3d.$ per lb.

OPIMUM.—A Constantinople correspondent writing on August 9 reports as follows: "New opium is coming in fast, and arrivals as compared with those of last year at same date would point to a crop of 9,000 cases and over. A yield of 8,000 cases is certain, 9,000 cases probable, and 10,000 cases possible. Notwithstanding these enormous figures, the natives are, as we surmised in our report of June 14, pushing up prices all round. There is absolutely no reason for this wild action, for America shows no desire whatsoever to lay in stock at anything over $5s. 6d.$ to $6s.$ f.o.b., and beyond speculative nibbling here and in Smyrna, there are no genuine buyers. During the past two years the natives have made money out of opium, and this year a great deal out of mobair. It is a well-known fact that in this country money made in this way is soon lost again, and we fear this mad speculation in opium will prove the rock which will cause shipwreck. Should autumn sowings prove a success there must be a collapse in the article, but in any case as soon as stocks accumulate and begin to make themselves felt values will decline to a more reasonable level. Prices asked to-day are as follows: Constantinople, $7s.$ f.o.b.; Smyrna, $6s. 9d.$ to $7s.$; Tokat, $8s. 9d.$ to $9s. 3d.$; Salonica, $9s.$ to $9s. 3d.$ The Salonica crop is estimated at 1,300 to 1,400 cases, Tokat 1,300 cases. Salonica opened low, and prices would have been at a very reasonable level had it not been for the heavy speculative purchases by a firm of that town." The stocks held in Constantinople on Saturday last consisted of 207 cases *Druggists'* opium old and 472 cases new *soft shipping*. *Malatia* was held to the extent of 22 old and 75 of the new crop. The arrivals of the new compared with last year are heavy—viz. a total of 628 all grades as compared with 243 in 1894. Our correspondence from Smyrna indicates that while certain holders are making great efforts to maintain and advance the price, the general opinion of those capable of judging is that in view of the large supply, prices must decline in the autumn. American buyers at Smyrna have tried to obtain a quantity of new opium at $6s. 6d.$, but have hitherto failed.

QUICKSILVER.—Business of some importance has transpired, and 3,000 bottles first-hand have been sold at $7l.$ per bottle, but the price has since been raised to $7l. 5s.$ per bottle. Second-hand stock is available at $7l. 3s. 6d.$ to $7l. 4s.$ per bottle.

QUININE SULPHATE.—The business passing in this article is of a restricted nature, and some orders in the market cannot be executed, second-hand holders remaining firm at $12\frac{3}{4}d.$ per oz. A sale of Auerbach's make (second-hand) is reported at $12\frac{3}{4}d.$, whilst 10,000 oz. B. & S. of Brunswick has changed hands at $12\frac{3}{4}d.$ As the market closes the price has reached $12\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $12\frac{7}{8}d.$, and a very large sale at the latter price has been effected. The quotation for January delivery is $1s. 1\frac{1}{4}d.$ A further improvement is impending. The floating London stocks may now be roughly computed at 2,000,000 oz.

SCAMMONY-ROOT.—The stock remains very small, and is held firmly at $45s.$ per cwt., and little or nothing is on the way. A restriction upon the collection has been in force some time.

SHELLAC.—Until the weekly public auction, on Tuesday, the demand was slack, and as a result of the Bank Holiday, an auction was allowed to lapse, consequently the offerings were more comprehensive than usual. About 700 cases I. and II. orange were catalogued, of which 250 cases realised last sale's rates to $1s.$ and $3s.$ advance upon private sales. Fine lemon orange was bought in at $7l. 12s. 6d.$, TN standard sellers $126s.$, fair free flat sold at $125s.$, and reddish curly leaf at $123s.$ to $124s.$; ordinary dark liver $120s.$ Garnet AC retired at $106s.$ to $108s.$ Button, fair I., sold at $124s.$, broken and resinous $98s.$ to $99s.$, and low III. at $69s.$ Distant October-December shipment, $113s.$ per cwt. cases, TN II. orange and August delivery $126s.$ per cwt.

STICKLAC.—155 cases were brought forward, hut found no buyers, and good clean-sifted Siam was taken out at $77s. 6d.$, whilst a few cases block sold at $59s. 6d.$, and siftings $19s. 6d.$

TEA.—The market is in full swing again after the holidays, with heavy sales and a fair demand from the country. A liberal supply of Indians went off at full prices for all good liquoring teas, which are badly wanted and of which stocks are very bare; but common teas were easier and difficult to move. The large proportion of rubbish in the Indian sales at the present time is very striking, and there is a general opinion that common teas will be very cheap. Ceylons on Tuesday were cheaper than the sale of the preceding Thursday, and some wonderful broken pekoes passed the hammer between 7d. and 8½d. Congous are quiet and unchanged.

DRUGS IN THE DOCK WAREHOUSES OF LONDON.

Comparative Table of Stocks, August 1.

	1895	1894	1893
Aloes cases	4,880	4,815	5,033
" gourds	2,798	3,489	655
Aniseed, Star	413	554	650
Arrowroot barrels	17,666	13,201	9,716
" boxes and tins	1,895	2,289	1,556
Balsam casks	1,631	1,206	1,700
Bark :—			
South American bales	18,190	19,807	22,358
E.I. and Ceylon bales and cases	11,148	14,172	15,730
Beeswax packages	2,340	1,905	1,536
Japan Wax "	1,011	523	1,200
Camphor, Crude "	4,765	4,406	3,558
Cardamoms "	1,265	1,245	657
Cochineal "	1,836	2,019	2,450
Cocculus Indicus "	180	423	544
Calumba-root "	532	1,352	1,327
Cubebs "	491	353	212
Dragon's Blood "	213	147	133
Ammoniacum "	149	76	97
Asafetida "	910	440	3
Benzoïn "	2,176	2,663	3,017
Galbanum "	2	11	10
Gamboge "	194	257	159
Guaiaacum "	83	131	198
Kino "	18	5	7
Mastic "	17	22	25
Myrrh "	464	361	346
Tragacanth "	4,900	3,863	2,022
Ipecac, Rio "	649	703	637
" other kinds "	18	155	142
Jalap "	308	260	168
Nux Vomica "	1,405	1,194	571
Rhubarb "	914	539	848
Sarsaparilla "	372	299	376
Senna "	1,536	1,970	2,414

New Companies and Company News.

THE Dr. Williams Medicine Company, of Schenectady, N.Y., has been incorporated in that State, with a nominal capital of \$5,000. Directors—W. T. Hanson, Lansing De F. Gates, Lewis A. Skinner, and George T. Fulford.

BRITISH WHITE LEAD COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 60,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on business as white-lead manufacturers, chemists, drysalts, oil and colour men, and importers and manufacturers of and dealers in chemical, industrial and other preparations and articles. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—W. A. C. Strettell, Moberley, Surbiton, gentleman; J. Stevens, Rosherville, Kent, clerk; S. B. Heward, 96 Ashley Gardens, S.W., gentleman; O. Hamilton, Undershore, Northfleet, gentleman; F. Willan, Thornhill, Bitterne, Hants, gentleman; J. Webster, Sandown Park, Tunbridge Wells, gentleman; H. O. White, Chapel House, Wargrave, Berks. The first directors (to number not less than two or more than five) are:—S. Barclay Heward, John Webster, H. Osborne White and Frank Willan. Qualification, 250*l.* Remuneration, 200*l.* each per annum; 100*l.* extra for the chairman, and a share in the profits.

AMALGAMATED LICENSED VICTUALLERS' MINERAL-WATER AND CORDIALS MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: As sufficiently indicated by the title. The first subscribers are: E. J. Arthorpe, 82 Hoxton Street, Hoxton, licensed victualler (10); A. Bear, Red Lion, Hoxton, licensed victualler (1); W. Finch, Red Lion, Hoxton, manager (2); E. Bear, Horn of Plenty, Market Street, Poplar, licensed victualler (4); E. S. Barnes, Northampton Park, N., manager (2); G. F.

Eeles, London Apprentice, Old Street, Hoxton, licensed victualler (4); G. Green, 28 Vincent Road, Wood Green, gentleman (1). The regulations of Table "A" in most cases apply.

CONSOLIDATED PHOSPHATE COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 45,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (15,000 A, or preference, and the rest B, or ordinary). Objects: To enter into an agreement with G. A. Cannot, and to manufacture, sell, and deal in sulphuric and other acids, alkalies, salts, artificial manures, superphosphates, &c. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—E. A. Medus, 172 Commercial Road, Peckham, clerk; Wm. Collinson, Hatfield, merchant; Wm. H. Roderick, 197 Hollydale Road, Peckham, clerk; W. T. Hart, 23 Moor-gate Street, E.C., solicitor; J. P. Mullins, 24 Ahoyne Road, S.W., manufacturer; L. H. Collinson, Colescroft, Kenley, Surrey, manufacturer; W. L. Malcolmson, 19 Roseleigh Avenue, Highbury Park, N., manufacturer. The first directors (to number not fewer than three nor more than five) are to be appointed by the subscribers. Qualification, 500*l.* Remuneration, as the company may decide, but none is to be paid unless a dividend of 5 per cent. is paid on the ordinary shares. Registered office, 35 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.—No capital, but has a membership of not more than 1,000, each of whom is liable for 10*s.* in the event of winding-up. Objects: To take over and carry on in all its branches the business of the present "Society for Psychical Research." The first subscribers are: Henry Sedgwick, Newnham College, Cambridge, professor of moral philosophy; W. F. Barrett, Royal College of Science, Dublin, professor of experimental physics; F. W. H. Myers, Leckhampton House, Cambridge; T. Barkworth, West Hatch, Chigwell, Essex; Wm. Crookes, F.R.S., 7 Kensington Park Gardens, W.; H. A. Smith, 1 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, barrister; W. Leaf, 6 Sussex Place, Regents Park. The affairs of the Society will be conducted by a council of 18 members. The first President is Professor Wm. James, of Harvard, U.S.A. Registered office, 19 Buckingham Street, Strand.

FOWLER'S PATENT NIGHT-LIGHT COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (7,000 preference). Objects: To acquire, develop, and turn to account the patents of Geo. C. and Morris B. Fowler for night-lights and candles, and to enter into an agreement with the vendors. The first subscribers are:—F. J. Smith, 17B Great George Street, S.W., architect (250); H. Young, Nelson House, Trafalgar Square, Chelsea, engineer (250); D. Charteris (250); T. Charteris (100), Kentfield Lodge, East Putney, contractors; H. J. Mannering, Hazelwood, Forest Hill, engineer (200); W. J. Deighton, 78 King William Street, E.C., tailor (100); H. J. Young, Bexhill, Sussex, engineer (100). The first directors (to number not less than two nor more than five) are Francis J. Smith and Henry Young. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration as the company may decide.

POMONA CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire, take over as a going concern, and carry on the business of manufacturers of, and dealers in, chemical preparations and articles and surgical materials, carried on as Hornby & Co., at Park Lane Chemical Works, Oldham, and to enter into two agreements for the purpose. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—W. H. Barrett, 11 Islington Square, Salford, salesman; T. Dnfield, 10 Elms Road, Whitefield, salesman; T. W. Rodgers, 5 Rosamund Street East, Manchester, packer; F. Taylor, West Worsley Street, Salford, warehouseman; J. Garstang, Lever Street, Radcliffe, salesman; R. Parnell, 5 South Grove, Manchester, clerk; H. Whittingham, 36 Ark Street, Manchester, warehouseman. The first directors (to number not less than three nor more than six) are to be nominated by the subscribers. Qualification, 50 shares. Remuneration, as the company may decide.

THE directors of Spratt's Patent (Limited) have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum for the six months ended June 30.

THE directors of Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited) announce the declaration of an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum for the six months ended June 30.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their views as concisely as possible.

Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.

The name and address of the writer should accompany all communications with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.

Legislation for Pharmacists.

SIR—I do not think those chemists who approached candidates for parliamentary honours during the heat of a general election were well advised.

Now, however, that the election is over, and we know exactly who our representatives in St. Stephen's are, I think something might be done in this way. It must not be supposed that chemists in approaching members of Parliament direct are ignoring the Pharmaceutical Society. Upon the other hand, most of us will be willing to acknowledge that the Society has in recent years awakened up from its Rip Van Winklish sleep and is now doing some good work. It is plain, however, that if anything is to be done for the chemist through the agency of our law-makers, the feeble knock of the Society upon the door of the mother of Parliaments must be accentuated by a blow from the whole body of the chemists throughout the country which shall cause Joe Chamberlain to drop his eye-glass and scare a spare chin or two off Sir William Harcourt's face.

What I would suggest is as follows:—

1. That all the chemists in a constituency form themselves into a parliamentary committee for the express purpose of considering what legislation is necessary in the present state of the trade.

Note.—To be of any use every constituency in the country must have its committee, and each committee must endeavour to secure every chemist within its particular constituency as a member.

2. That the publishers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST be asked to give monthly, for a time, an extra paper called the "Parliamentary Committee's Report," or by any other suitable name, for the purpose of reporting the proceedings and findings in the various committee-meetings.

Note.—Such a report is necessary in order that the committees may be enabled to act with harmony and method to reach the end in view. It would save the expenses of delegates and be much simpler.

3. That said report be ordered by the president of each committee in sufficient number to allow a copy for each member, and that payment be made for the same out of the funds of the various committees.

4. That careful calculation be made of the probable expenses of committee-work, in order that the membership subscription be kept at so low a figure as to prevent any chemist from urging that as an excuse for standing aside from a movement which ought to be assisted by every man licensed by examination to make his living in the drug-business.

5. When all the committees have agreed upon the legislation required (and I think that stage should be reached in about six months from the commencement of the movement), each committee shall draw up a report setting forth the grievances under which chemists suffer, and suggesting the legislation necessary in order to alleviate those grievances.

6. An effort shall be made to obtain the signature of every chemist upon the committee to this report.

7. A sub-committee shall then be formed to wait upon the member for the constituency, and it shall be the duty of those acting upon it to see the great man personally, if possible, and lay the report before him, with such explanation as circumstances may suggest.

8. That the committees, having reached this stage, do now fall back upon the Pharmaceutical Society to exercise its influence in obtaining the assistance of some prominent

member of Parliament to bring the question before the House.

9. That the various committees, having presented their reports, do not consider that at this stage their labours are over, but that they do still continue to meet from time to time for the purpose of watching matters and taking any further steps that may be considered advisable.

I have to add, in conclusion, that the intention of the above is entirely to strengthen the hands of the Society in endeavouring to obtain fresh legislation. The advantage of presenting a report upon the subject to a member of Parliament, signed by a large number of more or less influential members of his own constituency, is obvious; and if all the reports from the various committees were presented—say within a fortnight of each other—it ought to be impressive.

Should my suggestion be favourably considered, may I earnestly entreat chemists, whether Major or Minor men, to lay aside all jealousies, and combine in a hearty, spirited movement for the emancipation of a trade or profession which ought to remunerate us for all the trouble we have taken to qualify ourselves for it?

Dumfries,

JAMES REID.

P.S.—I have used the term "Parliamentary Committees" in order that it may be kept before members that the entire reason for calling them together is to consider fresh legislation. I make no comment upon Mr. Martin's idea of that legislation. His words appear to have been well weighed, and from the tenour of them I gather that he seeks the highest good of his profession in his way; but, after all, the destiny of the drug-business is in the hands of the rank-and-file, and until they move nothing can be done.—J. R.

Explosive Fruits.

SIR,—The note on "explosive" bursting of seed-pods in a sample of cubebs, in your colossal issue of July 27, might be completed by an explanation of the way in which the property noted has been evolved. *Justicia grandiflora* is not the only fruit by any means which "explodes," or undergoes more or less forcible disruption, at maturity. The common garden-balsam of this country does the same thing. The utility of it is to scatter the seeds. If you had them falling by the root of the parent plant, all in a cluster, there would be far less chance of a numerous development of new plants from the seeds than if they were "planted out," as gardeners plant out flower-seeds. The phenomenon has obviously developed by virtue of its direct usefulness to the plant, just as the long, hair-decked tail of certain wind-carried seeds has done, and the hard, indigestible covering of others, destined to be sown, with a suitable fertiliser, on their excretion by birds.

Yours faithfully,

45 Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

T. B. RUSSELL.

Testing Drugs.

SIR,—In your comments on recent strychnine fatalities at Birmingham, after drawing attention to the responsible nature of chemists' duties, you refer to a consideration that must often occur to us all—viz, the importance of chemists assuring themselves that substances supplied to them by the wholesale druggists are in reality what they are labelled. This is very good as far as it goes, but, of course, its utility is of a very partial nature when we consider that retail chemists only do a portion of the compounding of medicines, a very large share being done by medical practitioners themselves, and a still larger by wholesale druggists.

It rather seems to me desirable that wholesale druggists should feel it incumbent on themselves to take every precaution to guard against the possibility of errors in labelling, or otherwise.

Then, again, all who compound medicines, whether as wholesale or retail chemists or otherwise, should be compelled to do so under similar conditions as to registration and qualification. The matter becomes a very serious consideration when we reflect that the retail chemists are about the only class of dispensers of medicines who have to undergo a course of compulsory practical experience to qualify as such.

Yours faithfully,

Wilkesden, July 24.

T. BRIGHT.

Pharmacists and Poisons.

SIR,—In speaking of the examination of sodæ bicarb. for poison I intentionally selected a case illustrative of the practical impossibility of making such an examination of all white powders. But if we do not analyse in this manner sodæ bicarb., should we phenacetin? If we analyse the latter, then where shall we draw the line? The important principle involved (that of whether the retailer should rely at all, and if so in what degree, on the accuracy of the manufacturer or wholesaler, and if he should be responsible for errors, however rare, arising from the carelessness of them or their assistants) appears to me to make the subject one worth ventilating.

Yours very truly,

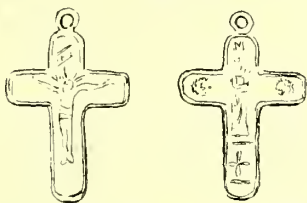
H. J. P. FIRMIN.

Chemist's Assistant.

July 30.

Curious Find in Spanish Ergot.

SIR,—When crushing some ergot a few days ago, our laboratory-man found amongst it a tiny amulet in the form of a crucifix. It appears to be made of bronze, is 1 inch long,



and, though small, the workmanship is delicate. The face bears a representation of Christ on the Cross, the reverse the Virgin and Child surmounted by the letter M. I enclose a sketch.

Leeds.

FRED. REYNOLDS.

[These are frequently found in original packages, and drop off from the necks of the Spanish workers—ED.]

Pharmacopœia Editing.

SIR,—I duly observed your note appended to my last on the above subject (vol. xlv., page 912). As I read it, however, it is not intended to preclude any practical comment of the same kind on the part of your readers, and accordingly I venture to send you, in a more specific form than previously, the improvements I would suggest in the description of such a well-known drug as that with which the present volume begins—viz, *acacia gummi*. I am indebted to Pereira, Squire, and other able writers for fuller information and better descriptions than those given in the present text. Admitting the enormous difficulties in the way of selecting and arranging the materials for a national Pharmacopœia, I see no reason why this department should not receive a little more attention at the hands of the authorities than it appears to have done. The sentences in italics I have added.

Yours truly,

C. C. (116/10.)

Acacia Gummi.

A gummy exudation from the stem and branches of *Acacia Senegal*, Willd. (*A. Verek*, Guill. et Perr.), (Bentl. and Trim., "Med. Fl." vol. ii., pl. 94), and from other species of *Acacia*, Willd.

These are small trees of the N. O. Leguminosæ, and are native of Senegal, Egypt, Nubia, and Arabia.

General Characters.—In rounded or somewhat angular pieces, varying in size from a pea to that of a walnut, or even larger, some of the pieces being nearly transparent, others more or less opaque, from innumerable cracks extending through them. It has a glassy lustre, is nearly white or yellowish-white, has no odour, but a bland, mucilaginous, sweetish taste. It is brittle, and may be readily broken into small fragments. It is entirely soluble both in hot and cold water; insoluble in alcohol. When added to oils, balsams, &c., it combines to form emulsions in the presence of aqueous fluids.

Reactions and Tests.—The aqueous solution forms with subacetate of lead an opaque white jelly (gummate of lead). If an aqueous solution of iodine be added to the powder, or to a solution formed with boiling water and cooled, there is no appearance of a violet or blue colour (showing absence of starch).

Preparations containing gum acacia as (A) powder (53 parts = 100 acaciae gummi):—

Mist. cret.	..	..	..	1 part in 34
Mist. guaiac.	..	..	..	1 " 85
Pulv. amygdal. co.	..	..	..	1 " 13
Pulv. trag. co.	..	..	..	1 " 6
Trochisci in all.				

as (B) mucilago acaciæ (1 in 24):—

Trochisci, all except opium.

Quackery (Limited).

SIR,—One of the greatest nuisances the chemist has to put up with is the prevalent system of doctors prescribing proprietary articles. Hundreds of chemists must have their shelves loaded with useless remnants of rubbish for which they can find no sale, use, or value. For instance, a prescription is handed in with 1 oz. of liq. ext. of the blooming clothes prop, "Yank Schnider & Co." None to be had in the town. The chemist must buy an original bottle—say, 8 oz. at cost of 5s. 6d.—or more. Seven ounces remain on hand for ever. Result, loss of 4s. on the transaction. This does not apply to secret compounds only, which may be termed doctors' quack remedies, but to ordinary fluid extracts, &c., masquerading under fancy names. The chemist may have a dozen kinds of ext. cascariæ, but cannot fill the prescription faithfully without getting the thirteenth. Makers will not supply the small quantities required, so to save loss of time and money, I venture to offer a suggestion which I am certain will prove profitable to the first house who makes itself known as the headquarters for special preparations in broken quantities as required.

I should advise that some London house lay itself open to buy and sell these goods, so that any chemist requiring 1 oz. of "Lylopooplopococrimram" (Yank, Schnider & Co) can obtain the same per return of post by wiring "Quackeries, London" (reg. telegraphic address).

I have thought out a system of working this trade at small expense, and will gladly explain my views to anyone who entertains it.

Yours faithfully,

6 Broad Street, Hereford.

J. J. JACKSON.

Poor-law Dispensership.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of July 20 two legless letters of blank argument from correspondents of shady qualification, who must have had a facetious spasm when they say they consider one qualification as good as another. Their certificates to act as assistants to an almost extinct race to be put on a par with the certificates of the Pharmaceutical Society. What presumption!

It could only be by the wide stretch of a very flexible imagination that such letters could be produced. Speaking from experience—as until recently I prepared candidates for the "Hall assistants' certificate," the Minor, and the Primary L.S.A.—I consider the Minor examination a more searching one in the same subjects than even the L.S.A., for the L.S.A. of to-day is not the apothecary of old, but the fully qualified modern medical man whose reputation depends upon his skill as a doctor, not as a pharmacist. Regarding the Minor and the Hall assistants' certificate, I have no doubt many of the Hall men with their "superior ability" would fare badly at Bloomsbury. I look upon the Hall assistants' certificate as the last resource of the "Bloomsbury plucked," "the ne'er-do-wells," "the unintellectual," or "the impecunious," and I consider that men possessing it are totally unfit to have sole charge of any public dispensary.

It must be evident that men do not take the Hall assistants' certificate from choice. The Minor certificate gives full privileges as a pharmacist, while the Hall certificate does not. The real position of a man holding the Apothecaries' assistants' certificate is defined in the term itself. Such men should only hold a post under the personal supervision of the now almost extinct apothecary. Therefore, why "Apothecaries' Hall" feels injured at being handicapped as regards dispensing for chemists, I fail to comprehend, for he is neither a chemist nor chemist's assistant. It is certainly the duty of the Pharmaceutical Council to do all in their power to prevent such men taking charge of any public dispensary, unless there be an apothecary attached

who will at least make himself responsible for the dispensing.

Yours truly,
JUSTITIA. (120/61.)

Advice to Prescribing Chemists.

SIR.—In his own best interests the obliging chemist of to-day should guard against the growing temptation to prescribe drugs over the counter for children *in absentia*, on the impulse of the moment, not pausing to consider whether the accident may not have caused a broken bone or dislocation of a joint, in which case the poppy-head fomentation could only prolong the agony of the child, discredit the chemist with the anxious, ignorant mother, and involve himself in a charge of supplanting the medical man—a charge which will be indignantly denied when the surgeon tells him of his mistake next day. "But what am I to do?" cries the chemist. "Lots of persons come to me every day asking what I can give them for this or that. The public have only themselves to blame when such-like mistakes occur."

Now, Sir, is this reasoning logical, or even honest, by which the "experienced chemist" tries to persuade the doctors that he only prescribes for "minor ailments"?

A moment's consideration would remind him that, when there is the history of a fall or accident, followed by pain on movement in the limb of a young child, the proper advice should be, "Send for the medical man immediately to examine the child."

A case of fracture of the collar-bone having occurred in my own practice last week, under such-like circumstances, I am induced to submit this piece of advice to prescribing-chemist members of the Pharmaceutical Society.

I am, &c.,
Juxta Liverpool, F.R.C.S.ENG. (121/60)
August 13.

Aq. Menth. Pip. Conc.

SIR.—The formula for "aq. menth. pip. conc." sent you by Mr. J. F. Brown, and published on July 20, 1895, is not satisfactory according to my experience. When 1 part is mixed with 40 of water the result is a cloudy mixture, in which oil of peppermint floats. It will be seen from the formula that it is much stronger (one-third) when diluted than the corresponding water of the B.P., which will be 3iss. oil to Cj., Mr. Brown's form being ʒij. oil to Cj.

Yours truly,
72 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, JOHN DAY.
August 7.

The Wearied Poet.

Week by week I look in vain
For your decision in the May quatrain.
Has sweet oblivion claimed the "tries,"
And "declared off" the proffered prize?

Angust 10. VINOLIA.

[By no means. We have a lot of the quatrains in hand yet.—ED.]

Competing with the Cutters.

SIR.—I think it must be a recognised fact that the company pharmacy and store trade in general done in our large towns is by the patronage of the suburban population, who often have a chemist in their own neighbourhood. I think if suburban chemists will open up a correspondence giving a little of their experience, and thus put each other in communication with the best policy to pursue in order to keep together the trade of the neighbourhood, this will do more to disappoint the cutters than anything else. My own experience is that unless the largely advertised patents and proprietaries are sold at city prices, your shop is boycotted and rarely visited by the majority of the inhabitants, except for trivial things. No doubt some of your readers have conducted their businesses on the principle referred to, therefore the question to be solved is, Does the asking for a trifle extra on these articles drive the bulk of the trade into the city, and the cutter flourish and grow fat by making his profit on dispensing and other trade which, if an honest

trader, he would never handle? My idea in writing this is to get to know, for myself and others, the best means of keeping the trade in one's own immediate neighbourhood, as I am convinced that it is the meagre profit got by only half-way cutting these things which gives the cutter his present advantage in getting the more profitable trade.

Yours truly,
SUBURBAN CHEMIST. (122/1.)

DISPENSING NOTES.

Correspondents should consult "The Art of Dispensing" in regard to dispensing difficulties. Difficulties not explained therein may be sent to the Editor, who invites a general expression of opinion upon the under-mentioned topics.

About that Hyd. Chlor.

SIR—I notice in to-day's issue of your paper a dispensing note, in reply to "Ulverston," *re* hyd. chlor. May I ask if you are quite sure that chloral hydrate was intended?

If I had been dispensing the prescription, I should have used calomel. I should like to know what some of your other readers would have done.

Yours faithfully,
July 27. ST. IVIAN. (109/23.)

In reference to the prescription received by "Ulverston" (104/4), I think that calomel must have been intended, as I have on many occasions dispensed similar prescriptions containing hyd. chlor. (calomel) and camphor for pruritis ani and piles.
J. D. M. (111/40.)

Extract of Aloes and Acid. Sulph. Fort. in Pills.

Phantom.—To make a satisfactory pill from the following formula—

Ac. sulph. fort.	..	..	..	..	gtt. vj.
Ext. aloes.	..	..	..	..	gr. xxvj.
M. Ft. pil. vj.					

—rub the extract with the acid for a few seconds, and mass with the least possible quantity of equal parts of rectified spirit and simple syrup.

What is Zinc. Phosp.?

SIR.—The following prescription was handed in the other day. Opinions on the same invited in *C. & D.*—

Ferri redact.	..	..	..	..	gr. xl.
Zinci phosp.	..	..	..	..	gr. xvij.
Pepsin porci	..	..	..	..	gr. xxxvj.
Glycerin.	..	..	..	..	q.s. ut. ft. pil. xxvj.

Sugar coat. Order one with dinner.

Was the number ordered—*i.e.*, twenty-six—intended, or thirty-six? Also was phosphate zinc intended, or phosphide?
A. W. HUDSON.

[We think thirty-six is meant, and certainly zinc phosphide, although the dose is a trifle larger than usual.]

Glycerine Pessaries.

113/39. *Inquirer* had the following to dispense:—

Pessar. glycerini.
Mitte xij.

No strength being given, he dispensed the official suppos. glycerini, sending 30 gr. in each. In a case of this sort we should send the official mass, 60 gr. in each; a pessary being usually about this size—larger as a rule, than a suppository—and this is the medium quantity recommended in the Pharmacopœia Additions, 1890.

108/64. *Devonburian*.—The bismuth subnitrate and potassium bicarbonate in the mixture react as explained in the "Art of Dispensing."

Clear or Cloudy.

SIR,—I would feel obliged if you would kindly give me your opinion as to whether the following mixture should be sent out clear or slightly cloudy, as a customer of mine objected to slight cloudiness which the mixture produces without filtering:—

Chloral. hydrat. . .	..	..	..	..	5ij.
Potassi bromidi . .	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Syr. pruni virgin. . .	..	..	..	..	3vj.
Spt. chlorof. . . . .	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Aque ad . . . . .	..	..	..	..	3iij.

M.

Sig. : 5ij. in water, to be given as directed.

Yours truly,
DIURETIN. (107/49.)

[This is a question of taste. There is no active ingredient in the sediment, and we should not hesitate to filter the mixture, especially as that would please the customer.]

A Hygroscopic Powder.

106/17. *H. S. N.* (Monte Carlo) would be glad to know how to dispense the following prescription in cachets. When all the four ingredients are mixed a paste is formed:—

Methylacetanilide . .	..	..	..	..	0.75
Antipyrin . . . . .	..	..	..	..	0.75
Acetanilide . . . . .	..	..	..	..	1.00
Caffeine . . . . .	..	..	..	..	0.75

Divide into six cachets.

A Bismuth Mixture.

98/51. *Puzzled* complains that he cannot get a satisfactory mixture from the following:—

Bismuth. trisnit. . .	..	..	..	..	3j.
Muc. tragacanth. . .	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Tr. opii . . . . .	..	..	..	..	5ss.
Ac. hydrocy. dil. . .	..	..	..	..	℥xxij.
Aq. dest. ad . . . . .	..	..	..	..	3vj.

M.

[We do not find any difficulty here. Make the mucilage in the bottle, and add the bismuth, previously rubbed down with a little water; lastly add the other ingredients.]

A Permanganate-and-Nux Pill.

SIR,—Would you kindly let me know how the following should be made up?—

Potas. permang. . .	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Ext. nucis vom. . .	..	..	..	..	gr. ½

M. Ft. pil. secund. artem. Mitte xxiv.

Is the prescriber right in having a vegetable extract with pot. permang.?

Yours truly,
DUBITO. (121/65)

[The prescriber was probably unaware of what he was doing, and the dispenser must try to minimise the action of the permanganate on the extract. Do this by rubbing the extract with 12 gr. of kaolin or fullers' earth, and the permanganate with 6 gr. of the same. To the latter add vaseline to form a soft mass; then work in the extract powder and enough ung. resinæ to make a workable mass.]

Res. Copaibæ in Mixture.

SIR,—Would your readers suggest anything as to the dispensing of the following prescription?—

Resin. copaibæ . . .	..	..	..	..	5iij.
Mucilag. . . . .	..	..	..	..	q s.
Aque ad . . . . .	..	..	..	..	3vj.

M. Ft. mist.

3j. 4tis hor's.

It was twice tried as advised in "Art of Dispensing," page 165, using *P. sac. lactis* and *pulv. acaciæ*, but it turned out a very unsightly mixture, the resin agglomerating to the sides of the bottle; though very finely powdered and incorporated with the other powders. On trying *Mr. Gerrard's*

mode a better result was obtained, but not at all satisfactory. The following method proved better, and the mixture was sent out so:—Made mist. amygd., but did not strain, also adding 5iv. extra of *pulv. acaciæ*; dissolved the resin in spt. vini rect., and added gradually whilst shaking to the mist. amygd. The resin in this case seemed to be well divided.

Yours respectfully,
H. R. (120/10.)

LEGAL QUERIES.

Immediate information on pharmaco-legal matters is available in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," *Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty,"* and *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.*

117/23. *Mercury*.—As an L.P.S.I. it is legal for you to accept any appointment, as a compounder of medicines in Great Britain, which you can get. You only infringe the law if you sell poisons or describe yourself as a chemist, &c. A hospital can appoint anybody it likes as its dispenser. The Local Government Board has intimated that your qualification will satisfy them. In English prisons, we believe, the British qualification is requisite.

120/18. *R. S.*—As you served your term with a registered dentist, that time will apparently count for two years of your curriculum if you can produce the proper certificates. The pharmaceutical examinations do not avail you at all except that the Preliminary will be accepted *pro tanto* for the Preliminary Dental if you passed it before December 31, 1891.

64/35. *J. W. B.*—It is the custom of the trade to give a month's notice to chemists' assistants. In the absence of specific agreement this can, therefore, be claimed, no matter whether the salary has been paid weekly, monthly, or quarterly.

121/55. *Cyanide*.—We cannot tell whether the Board would regard tender feet as an ailment. Send your labels to Somerset House in duplicate, and ask if they are liable.

122/3. *Cassin*.—You are not bound to consent to the conclusion of your apprenticeship before the time contracted for; but we should think the advantage would be on your side. If you do mutually agree to terminate it, no legal result will follow. You may make a note of the circumstance on your indentures. It will be a biographical item.

120/14. *Inquirer*.—Your questions 1 to 4 are answered in the *C. & D. DIARY*, 1895, page 212, and question 5 on page 198 of the same book.

119/65. *J. M.*—You cannot legally sell any brandy for medicine unless you hold a spirit-retailer's licence.

123/3. *J. H. C.*—The purchaser of an article for analysis is only required to offer to divide it into three parts. As you did not accept the offer, you cannot now get the article tested by an independent analyst. We have no recollection of any case of the character referred to by you.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

Back numbers containing formulæ educational or other specific information can be obtained from the Publisher.

N.B.—We destroy anonymous letters. We do not answer queries of the kind here dealt with by post. We ask that separate queries shall be written on separate sheets of paper.

109/46. *H. & Co. (Limited)*.—For the application of Cocaine in Tooth-extraction an ordinary hypodermic syringe is suitable. A 5-per-cent solution is the usual

strength, 5 minims to be used for an injection. One injection is usually sufficient. From three to five minutes should intervene between the time of injection and extraction. This gives $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. of cocaine for each injection. We have known $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. given, but with certain temperaments this is risky, and has produced rather alarming symptoms.

92/21. *Chemicus*—(1) The Ointment for Bruises, Cuts, Chapped Hands, &c., seems to consist of—

	Parts				
Petrolatum.	8
Hard paraffin	1
Glycerine	1

Mix.

Instead of hard paraffin, yellow beeswax might be used with advantage. (2) Ointment for Diseases of the Scalp, &c., consists of a lanoline creamy ointment containing borax. (3) Nurse Bagley's Corrective Elixir was inserted under the "Information Wanted" some time since. We have received no answers, and do not know what it is: perhaps some of our correspondents may yet be able to help you.

98/51. *Puzzled*.—Foot-powder—This is approximately the formula for your sample:—

P. ac. benzoic.	..	..	..	..	5j.
P. aluminis	..	..	..	..	3ij.
P. amyli	..	..	..	..	3viij.

M.

104/26. *Salis*.—Saline Aperient similar to your sample:—

Ac. tartaric.	..	..	..	..	3ix.
Sodii bicarb.	..	..	..	..	3x.
Solae tartaratae	..	..	..	..	3iv.

M.

107/6. *Bann*.—Gapes in Young Fowls, &c.—One of the best remedies, which more or less resembles numerous samples received, consists of a formula published in this journal a few years ago. We publish it again, as it is not only suitable for gapes, but also for roup and all parasitic diseases. "Slack half a bushel of lime, and when cold add 10 lbs. of sulphur and 1 oz. of pure carbolic acid. First drive out the birds, then sweep out thoroughly, dust freely all over and in the air, then put all the birds back." Jeyes' fluid, and similar preparations, have also been recommended. See also "Veterinary Counter Practice."

107/27. *Carlo*.—What you should use is the oil-soluble aniline dyes, some of which are only darkened by alkali.

109/21. *T. W. L.*—(1) Tr. Ferri Ammon Chlor. is a yellowish preparation. The wholesale house who sent you a brown liquor seems to have mistaken the preparation for dialysed iron. (2) Spt. Aetheris Muriatricus is not spirit of chloric ether, but a spirit distilled from a mixture of hydrochloric acid and alcohol in a similar way to spt. aether. nitrici. It contains ethyl chloride, aldehyde, &c., and is the old sweet spirit of salt. Squire is right in regard to the matter.

118/59. *J. Stewart*.—You will find full details of the production of process blocks from photographs in Mr H. Blackburn's "Art of Illustration," published by W. H. Allen & Co., 13 Waterloo Place, London.

111/43 *Syrupus*.—The Bad Odour of Syr. Hypophos. Co. is fully discussed in the paper by Mr. W. A. H. Naylor, in our issue of August 3. We have generally avoided the odour by allowing double decomposition of the hypophosphite of calcium and sulphates to take place in boiling solutions.

117/55 *R. Y.*—Household Ammonia—See *C. & D.*, May 18, 1895, page 695; and October 6, 1894, page 531.

111/38. *J. K. H.*—Sheep-dip to be diluted about 300 times.—A variety of formulae are given at page 174 "Veterinary Counter Practice," and in our issue of April 13, 1895, page 523.

113/11. *W. G. H.*—Syrup of Figs.—This is a proprietary article now being advertised in this country. You will find information concerning it in *C. & D.*, May 6, 1893, page 613, and December 9, 1893, page 845, where formulae are given.

115/70. *A. S. W.*—Try Crawshaw & Co. for the dye.

114/57. *E. U. B.*—Arsenical Pills for the Complexion.—These contain very little arsenic. The following is a safe prescription:—

Ferri arseniatis	..	..	..	..	gr. ij.
.. redact.	..	..	..	..	3iss.
Pil. rhel. co.	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Ext. nucis vom.	..	..	..	..	gr. x.
Glycer. tragac.	..	..	..	..	q.s.

Ft. mass. et div. in pil. lx.

One thrice daily with food.

For lozenges and tablets use arseniate of soda, $\frac{1}{30}$ grain in each.

114/71. *Hyd. Subchlor.*—Face powder.—Subchloride of bismuth, zinc oxide, and French chalk are the usual ingredients, but they should be in the finest possible powder obtainable by elutriation. The perfume should be triturated with a portion of the powder for an hour or two before it is added to the bulk. The following formula will suit your purpose:—

Oxide of zinc	..	..	..	..	3vj.
French chalk	..	..	..	..	3x.
Otto of rose	..	..	..	..	3xxv.
Heliotropin	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Artificial musk	..	..	..	..	gr. ss.

Mix, and sift four times.

114/1. *Hydrastis*.—We cannot give special advice in regard to the treatment of venereal diseases, and we believe that you will find it more profitable to send such cases to a friendly medical man than to undertake the treatment yourself.

114/23. *Cimolite*.—The British Homœopathic Pharmacopœia, or the "Companion" to it, published by Messrs. Keene & Ashwell, will give you the information you want.

114/40. *Ben Nevis*.—Freckle-cream.—We do not recollect the formula which you speak of, but you will find the following satisfactory:—

Hydrarg. iodidi rub.	..	..	..	..	gr. iv.
Pulv. zinci oleat.	..	..	..	..	5j.
Ess. rose alb.	..	..	..	..	5j.
Glycerini	..	..	..	..	5i-s.
Ol. vaselini	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Lanolini	..	..	..	..	3iss.

Mix well.

Put this up in $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. pots to retail at 1s.

120/15. *Glucose*.—In regard to the manufacture of Boiled Sweets, see Skuses's "Confectionery," published by W. J. Bush & Co. at 7s. 6d.

116/47. *Dispenser*.—For Gallinol, see DIARY, page 413.

107/19. *A. Jones*.—Meat preserving Powder used by butchers.—Your sample consists of boric acid and borax, about 1 part of the former to 3 of the latter.

116/43. *A. B. J.*—You cannot get a Permanent Black Hair-dye, either for animals or man. The silver and pyrogallol dye is as good as any. First wash the part well, dry, and apply the dye; then use brilliantine to give the hair lustre. If you do not wish the adjacent parts dyed they should be anointed with a solution of vaseline in chloroform, applied with a brush. It is impossible to get an artificial colour exactly like the natural black of a dog's coat.

117/50. *J. C. R.*—Tincture of Boldo.—The French tincture is 1 in 5, and is made with S.V.R.; dose, 20 drops. The French seem to esteem it highly as a tonic and stimulant of the liver and the digestive membranes; but although boldo-leaves have long been known in this country, they remain a "new remedy."

117/19. *R. K.*—(1) We do not care to use as a *nom de plume* an ordinary name not the name of the querist, but probably of somebody else who might object. We presume you did not think of this. (2) Tarragon Vinegar is made from tarragon-leaves (8 oz to the gallon), but latterly oil of tarragon or estragon has been used instead. This oil in the proportion of $\frac{1}{2}$ drachm to the gallon, with an ounce or two of spirit, gives a proper vinegar. It should be coloured with spinach. (3) There is no doubt that the use of ammonia hair-washes, without occasionally using an acetic one, does bleach the hair. Miss Reid, of Aberdeen, who some years ago had quite a large practice as a capillary specialist (she may yet for all we know), seemed to recognise this fact, for her acetic and alkaline lotions had to be used alternately. The ammonia bleaches by removing the natural fat, and with the fat some of the colouring-matter.

117/52. *W. S. D.*—With what object do you wish to harden the onions?

116/33. *J. H. H.*—Glove-cleaning Powder.—Try this:—

Terra alba..	..	..	..	..	3iv.
Powdered orris ..	..	..	..	..	3j.
" curd-soap ..	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Dried bicarbonate of soda ..	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Borax ..	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Sal ammoniac ..	..	..	..	..	3j.

Mix.

Directions.—Wipe the glove with a damp cloth; then apply the powder gently rubbing. Dry before the fire, and brush off. Very dirty spots on the gloves should be smeared with a paste made by mixing some of the powder with methylated spirit.

You may perfume the powder as you desire. Try it before you put it up, as the above is a suggestion merely, the formula being based upon a paste preparation.

115/27. *E. M.* has received the following recipe to make up:—"One ounce of camphor dissolved in 2 oz. aq. vitæ; now add 2 oz. of liq. storax and 1 oz. of quicksilver, 2 oz. of hematis. Beat into a powder." The mixture is to be applied to the hands of a circus performer to permit him to handle very hot irons with impunity. The question is, What is Hematis? Hæmatite, we think—i.e., natural red oxide of iron.

121/41. *No Matter Who* writes:—"Kindly say in your answers for the 17th in the *C. & D.* if there has just been or is about to be published a new edition of 'Ganot's Physics' (the large size). If it is not yet out can you say about when we are to expect it?" [We print this as an example of how things should not be done. (1) The inquirer does not give his address, Liverpool merely, and there are twenty-four pages of our subscription register with Liverpool names, but we do not find this querist's amongst them; (2) we do not promise replies on a specific date; (3) the question is one which any good local bookseller could answer in a twinkling, or a postcard to the publishers of the book would bring a reply by return; (4) so much of our space is now taken up by queries that it will be for the benefit of our subscribers generally if some do not rush to us at the first blush with trivial questions.]

116/39. *Spero* is a more considerate man. He asks us to reply "as soon as convenient" to this problem:—"A friend some time ago ran a nail into his hand, which festered and afterwards healed, leaving a dry scaly skin which has spread over the whole palm of his hand. He has tried our local doctor, who cannot cure it. Could you suggest a remedy?" [He should use Thomson's antiseptic soap, washing carefully, and after drying anoint the part with the following ointment:—

Acid. salicylic.	..	..	..	..	3j.
Glycerini ..	..	..	..	..	5i.
Aq. rosæ ..	..	..	..	..	5ij.
Lanolini ..	..	..	..	..	5vj.

M.

This should be applied always after washing, and the superfluous ointment rubbed off; but at bedtime the hand may be wrapped in a bandage after the ointment has been applied.]

118/34. *Elim*—(1) See reply to "R. Y." (2) You should add some siccative to the paint. It is usual for boiled linseed oil to become sticky. That is its nature until oxidation is complete or a base is combined with it.

115/17. *Student.*—Froehde's Reagent is a 1-per-cent. solution of molybdate of ammonia in strong sulphuric acid.

122/11. *Salipyrin*—Indian Brandy.—See *C. & D.* DIARY, 1894, page 367.

121/37. *Beverage* sends a bottle of Ginger-beer, one of a batch of sixty dozen, which is like mucilage of tragacanth as to consistency. This is a good example of the results of viscous fermentation, and shows that either the yeast or some of the ingredients are charged with the *Bacillus viscosus*, of which there are two varieties—one, var. *sacchari*, attacking saccharose in neutral or alkaline fluids, and the other, var. *vini*, attacks glucose in acid fluids. It is probably the latter which has given "Beverage" the trouble he has; but the main fact is that the fermentation is complete, and there is now no remedy for it. The viscosity is directly due to the presence of a substance which is a metamorphosed cellulose. This is precipitable by alcohol, lead subacetate, and other chemicals; but that would be no remedy for the ginger-beer. In making future batches, "Beverage" should clarify his honey well, use a new yeast (compressed, preferably), and do everything possible by cleanliness, &c., to get rid of the undesirable micro-organism.

116/14. *Revilo*—(1) Tonic-mixture:—

Liq. strychn.	..	..	..	..	℥iij.
Spt. chlorof.	..	..	..	..	℥x.
Inf. gent. co.	..	..	..	..	3ss.

Pro dosis ter in die.

(2) Indigestion-mixture:—

Liq. bismuthi ..	..	..	..	..	℥xxx.
Ext. cascarr. sag. liq. (miscible) ..	..	..	..	..	℥v.
Aqua ad. ..	..	..	..	..	3ss.

Pro dosis.

117/57. *Ephemeræ*.—Neuralgia-powders similar to your sample:—

Antifebrin.	..	..	..	..	gr. v.
Ferri redacti ..	..	..	..	..	gr. v.

M. Ft. pulv.

Ter die sd.

111/3. *J. T. D.*—The letters M.D.S., which occur frequently at the foot of German prescriptions, stand for *Misce, detur, signetur*.

112/53. *Ice*.—Ice-cream Powder.—We published an analysis of a powder like yours on July 13, 1895; please refer to it.

119/45. *Xtals*.—(1) Your Beer-preserving Salts, used by putting a little in each barrel, is potassium bisulphite. (2) Anti-sour, "a teaspoonful of which is an excellent thing to take the tartness from a gallon of beer," is potassium bicarbonate slightly tinted yellow with a trace of aniline dye.

41/6. *Foto-dépôt*.—(1) We do not know the Speed Numbers of "Gem dry plates." The numbers would of course vary with each batch of emulsion; approximately you might place the "Universal" at fifty-five, the "Meteor" at eighty. (2) The Inertia Number stamped on boxes of plates signifies theoretically the smallest amount of light which should affect the plate at all, expressed in candle-meter-seconds. You should read Mr. Sterry's synopsis of Harter and Driffield's investigations which was read at the Central Photographic Club, in December, 1893, and reported in all the photographic papers at the time.

105/7. *Iodoform*.—Canary-colouring Powder.—The powder for producing rich yellow plumage when given to canaries is the powdered fruit of *Copsicum annuum*.

98/16. *Self-raising*.—Aerated or Self-raising Flour:—

Cream of tartar	2½ oz.
Bicarbonate of soda	1½ oz.
Flour ("best whites")	28 lbs.

Each ingredient to be dried thoroughly before mixing.

119/67. *Subscriber*.—(1) The cause of Horse "Knuckling" at Fetlocks is most probably overwork and weakness of ligament and tendons, and is best treated by rest and blistering, after which cold water from a hose should be applied to the parts daily and bandages used. (2) For Bog-spavin, if blistering and rest do not succeed, the contents of the bursa may be evacuated by an aspirator and pressure applied afterwards, or the subcutaneous injection of tinct. iodi is often successful. The animal must be rested while blister is applied. (3) For Enlargement on Cows' Knee insert a seton through, and keep this in place for two to four weeks, dressing every second day with tinct. iodi, and at the same time rub in nng. iodi (1 to 8) over the enlargement.

109/13. *Climax*.—To Prevent Mucilage Fermenting use boric acid (10 gr. to 3j.), salicylic acid (5 gr.), betanaphthol (2½ gr.), corrosive sublimate (1 in 2,000), oil of cloves, creosote, or carbolic acid, according to purpose for which required. Formalin has also been used with excellent results in the proportion of 1 minim to the ounce. For medicinal purposes, prepare with cold water, strain, then heat to 212° F., and bottle in 10-oz. bottles while still hot. To preserve a commercial gum composed of glucose, glue, and gum arabic, such as you mention, formalin is most efficient. Certain makers, in preparing their mucilage, are supposed to allow fermentation to proceed so far before bottling, then adding any of, or a mixture of, the usual aromatic anti-ferments, such as carbolic acid, creosote, and oil of cloves. A liquid glue, with chloral hydrate as a preservative, is given at page 124 of the current volume; a commercial gum with suitable preservative is given at page 878, December 16, 1893.

109/53. *Verax*.—To Prevent Fly-papers Drying up, you must be careful in adjusting the quantities of castor oil and resin. The reports of a "fly-paper" case occurring in the North of England, which appeared in this journal two months ago, afford some information on the secrets of this branch of the trade.

109/19. *X. Y. Z*.—To Remedy Moisture Forming on Floor of a Store which had been previously used for curing purposes, the floor being made of sandstone blocks, and has been saturated with the brine, you should first give it a good covering of quicklime, in rough powder or small pieces, leave shut up for a few days, then sweep

up the lime, and cover with a coating of asphalt or lime cement. The only other remedy would be to take up the flooring and put in a bed of cement and then fresh stones on top, which would be both troublesome and expensive. Information concerning mastic cement will be found on page 178 in the issue of July 27.

111/4. *Gardener*.—To Destroy Weeds in Garden-paths the safest, and at the same time efficient, remedy is a hot saturated solution of common salt, or the salt itself spread thickly, or a solution of arsenic and washing-soda boiled together, numerous formulae for which have appeared from time to time in this journal—e.g., September 22, 1894, page 470.

115/35. *Unsuccessful*.—Thanks. We hope to use your notes in our Educational Number.

114/4. *A. M. J.*.—Acetylene is a gas, as you may imagine from its formula, C_2H_2 , and coal-gas contains a small proportion of it. It is calcium carbide that is now recommended for making it, and liquefied acetylene is obtainable.

114/9. *H. & G.*.—You should have no difficulty in obtaining Pentane Spt. from any distiller of petroleum. See "Buyers' Guide" in the DIARY, or page 314.

106/3. *H. D. A.*.—We think your query has been replied to. Ammonium sulphate is as good a food as any for tomato-plants; but please ask a gardener, as we are not specialists in that department.

45/7. *J. F. K.*; 103/38. *D. C.*; 107/26. *W. S.*.—Your queries have been replied to. If you have not seen the replies, please refer to the last three or four numbers.

96/58. *Acetone*.—Acetic Acid.—The Pharmacopoeia acid is of sp. gr. 1.044. The simplest way you can test it is to weigh 182 gr. of it, which should dissolve 47 gr. of carbonate of magnesia. See Proctor's "Pharmaceutical Testing," page 15.

105/67. *G. W.*.—The conclusions of the Royal Commission 1893, on Thames Water are considered reliable. There is an excellent article on water in Thorpe's "Dictionary of Chemistry," which you should read.

107/13. *Nemo*.—You can get movable rubber type from Mr. E. Richford, Snow Hill, E.C.

108/17. *J. F. K.*.—The standard caustic-soda solution of the British Pharmacopoeia is what you want. Please refer to it.

108/10. *J. D.*.—The addition of a little saccharin and spirit of peppermint will give you a more palatable mixture, but chloroform is best. Liquorice-extract is also good.

108/15. *Mel Boracis* (Calcutta).—Creta ppt. is precipitated chalk. Ppt. is the common contraction for precipitated.

INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor invites, on behalf of inquiring subscribers, postcard replies to the following:—

117/27. Makers or agents of "Papoid" tablets.

138/95. Agents or makers of "Luxor" oil.